

Edmonton metr



Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, JULY 24-26, 2015



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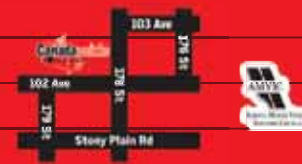


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Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, JULY 24-26, 2015

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DUDE, WHERE'S MY MLA?

34

Of the 54 NDP MLAs elected in May, 34 took almost two months to open a constituency office — and many still haven't.

Coverage, metroNEWS

'It makes you sick'

HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION

Victim used to be a talented hockey player in his youth

Andrea Ross
Metro | Edmonton

A former coach of the 27-year-old man found dead in a burned SUV east of Edmonton Monday says he was a talented hockey player who showed tremendous promise as a young athlete.

RCMP have declared Dylan Cleet's death a homicide after his remains were found in a torched Dodge Journey early Monday morning, in the area of Range Road 224, near Township Road 534, east of Sherwood Park.

Police have not yet named a suspect in his death and continue to investigate.

"He was a pretty amazing

hockey player, probably the most naturally athletic hockey player I've ever seen," Wyan Shankaruk, Cleet's former coach at Edmonton's Maple Leaf Athletic Club, said.

"He was a big, muscular guy and a fantastic skater. But he was a quiet kid, polite to us coaches and never caused us any problems."

Shankaruk coached Cleet at the north Edmonton hockey club in 2002, when Cleet was in his early teens. Cleet was from a "tougher background," Shankaruk said, like many of the other boys on the team.

"I don't know if I've coached a better athlete," he said. "It makes you sick a little bit when you hear about stuff like this."

Police believe Cleet had a current girlfriend who they have not yet identified. She is not a suspect in the homicide, they said, but it is believed she may have information that can assist the investigation.



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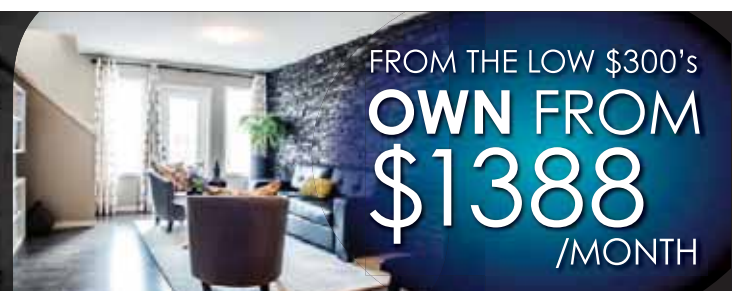
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There's more than people on that plane

TRAVEL

High-value goodies are sitting just below your feet



Andrea Ross
Metro | Edmonton

Diamonds, medicines, oil-field equipment, food destined for northern provinces, blood plasma and fish are just some of the things that might be hitching a ride on your next flight from the Edmonton airport.

These and other high-value items are routinely shipped in the cargo hold of passenger airlines, a common way of transporting expensive, rare or perishable goods. Most airlines do it, and most passengers don't realize it's there, right beneath their feet.

Less than 10 per cent of the world's trade goods move by air cargo, but more than 30 per cent of the value of all traded goods moves by air, said Norm Richard, director of service development for Edmonton International Airport.

"It's high-urgency, highly important shipments," he said. "When you get into ... long-haul international passenger aircraft, the cargo portion sometimes



Pat Batten, right, owner of fish supplier Ocean Odyssey, holds fresh fish flown in from Iceland alongside client Corey Meyer from Acme Meat Market. ANDREA ROSS/METRO

hits as high as 40 per cent of the total revenue of the aircraft."

Precious cargo is critical for route profitability and long-term sustainability for airlines, Richard said. The majority of major international carriers have dedicated cargo departments focused on maximizing revenue from carrying cargo, he added.

Unique and high-value cargo commonly makes its way through the EIA, especially goods destined for northern communities.

"Sometimes a community will ship almost everything it requires by air, everything from food to tricycles to televisions," Richard said. "Sometimes it's the only way to get something in to a remote community."

Some local businesses have reaped the profits from efficient cargo transport at the EIA.

Pat Batten, owner of fish supplier Ocean Odyssey, depends on Icelandair's commercial cargo service on its daily flights to and from Edmonton for her shipments of fresh Icelandic cod.

The fish is filleted in Iceland each morning. Six hours later, across an ocean, the fresh cod arrives at Batten's west-end shop, ready to land on diners' plates at some of the city's best restaurants.

North 53 and Culina are two of the restaurants who source their fresh fish from Ocean Odyssey, Batten said.

"It has increased our business tremendously," she said. "Our customers will say this is the freshest fish you can get in Edmonton."

+ UNEXPECTED CARGO

If you thought those bags had just shirts and pants inside...

Some of the goods shipped in passenger airline cargo through the Edmonton International Airport include diamonds, oil-field equipment, perishable food and blood plasma — not your typical carry-on luggage.



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Fish CREATIVE COMMONS

FOLK MUSIC

O'Connor replaced by Ford at festival

Lucy Haines
For Metro | Edmonton

The Edmonton Folk Festival isn't sweating the last-minute cancellation of two main stage acts and is instead dipping into the deep pool of musical talent already booked for the sold-out weekend in early August to fill the gap.

Folk-fest producer Terry Wickham announced that Frazey Ford

will step into Sinead O'Connor's Friday-night slot, even after a swelling of tweets, emails and phone calls from a devoted folkie audience made suggestions for a replacement act.

"We're grateful for the input. I think we have a genuine Canadian star in Frazey Ford," Wickham said, calling her album *Indian Ocean* one of the best he's heard in years.

"People will send up guff at the decision, but they won't after the concert."

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ASIRT

City police cleared in fatal shootout

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team says Edmonton police were justified in their use of force during a dramatic shootout that left a homicide suspect dead last year.

David Charles Sandaker, 24, was pinned between a fence and a police tactical vehicle in the area of 51 Avenue and 149 A Street on May 11, 2014, when police attempted to arrest him. A Canada-wide warrant had been issued for his arrest, and police had known Sandaker would not be cooperative if confronted.

According to the ASIRT report, when the man was struck by the vehicle he was pointing a handgun at the driver of the tactical vehicle and began firing a .45 calibre semi-automatic handgun at officers, wounding one.

Four tactical officers returned fire, striking Sandaker, who remained pinned between the vehicle and the fence. When the vehicle was finally moved, it was determined Sandaker had suffered fatal gunshot wounds.

The police officer was treated in hospital and later released.

The ASIRT report, released Thursday, concludes officers were "lawfully placed" and that the use of force was reasonable and justified in all circumstances.

"This finding in no way diminishes the fact that a family has lost their loved ones," ASIRT said in a statement released Thursday. "On behalf of ASIRT, the executive director extends condolences to the family and friends of the deceased in relation to this tragic event."

METRO



EPS Const. Jason Born and his eight-year-old service dog, Xeiko, at the announcement of the countrywide Quanto's Law, which protects service animals. LUCY HAINES/FOR METRO

Service dogs get their due with Quanto's Law

K9

Greater protection offered under new legislation

Lucy Haines
For Metro | Edmonton

Acting Staff Sgt. Adam Segin chokes up as he talks about a new federal law aimed at enhancing protection for police,



There are still times a (canine) partner doesn't cease to amaze you.

Acting Staff Sgt. Adam Segin

military and guide dogs.

Under it, those who kill a service animal face a mandatory six months or up to five years in jail.

To Segin, police dogs aren't just workmates — they become a part of the officer's family.

And almost always, retired canine partners are adopted permanently into the officer's home after leaving active duty.

"As experienced as we become, there are still times a partner doesn't cease to amaze you," said Segin, who has been with the canine unit for eight years.

The Justice for Animals in Service Act (known as Quanto's Law) came about after EPS dog Quanto was stabbed to death in 2013 while helping to catch a fleeing suspect.

"We go after fleeing suspects into dangerous situations all

the time, and our dogs are our specialized tools. I'm just fortunate my dogs haven't been injured," Segin said.

Besides law enforcement dogs (the RCMP has 168 police service dogs across Canada), Quanto's law protects RCMP horses, 50 dog-and-handler teams that detect drugs and firearms at the Canada Border Service Agency, and nearly 100 similar teams at Correctional Services Canada.



INFRASTRUCTURE

City aims for less salt on roads



Braeden Jones
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton is cutting back on its salt, but this has nothing to do with eating and everything to do with driving.

Two years ago, the city's traction strategy evolved to include mixing recycled sand material in with salt.

"It's directly utilizing street sweepings that come off the road in the springtime we stockpile," said Blair Bucholtz, general supervisor of aggregates and recycling for the City of Edmonton.

The city, with its partner Sand Recycling, has been testing the proprietary refining process since 2004, and Bucholtz calls it an "ongoing process, continually being upgraded."

New equipment installed last summer improved the quality of the reused material enough that the city is reducing the percentage of salt in the mix from six per cent to four per cent.

The city is going a step further this coming winter. Early tests indicate a material pile that is three per cent salt doesn't freeze.

"We will run roadways with a three per cent trial mix out of the main yard this winter to see how well it performs," Bucholtz said.

Without the recycling program, one tonne of the deicing material would cost about \$115 per tonne. With the recycling, the cost was reduced to \$70 per tonne.

Bucholtz is optimistic that reduced salt orders will keep lowering that cost, and fewer shipments of salt and sand will reduce the city's carbon footprint.

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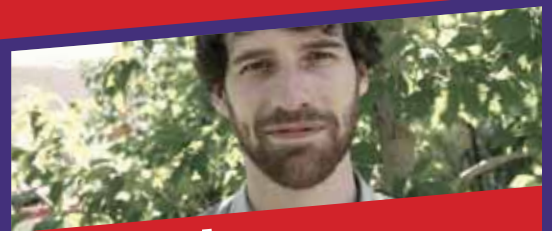
Emerging Edmonton Artists!



Alex Vissia

Alex Vissia's songs are grown from folksy prairie roots. Alex's performances have included stages at the Edmonton Folk Music Festival (2013), Canmore Folk Music Festival (2013), and Beaumont Blues & Roots Festival (2014).
Website: www.alexvissia.com

Brock Tyler is an Edmonton-based songwriter and multi-instrumentalist whose songs incorporate elements of folk, pop, country and electronic music. Over the course of four releases his music has reached listeners around the world and has been featured in several TV shows including ABC's Grey's Anatomy.
<http://www.kinsellarecordings.com/brocktyler>



Brock Tyler



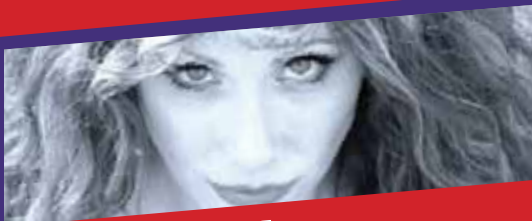
Sister Gray

Sister Gray is a five-piece alternative pop/rock band playing the kind of music you would hear if Joan Jett grabbed a synth and teamed up with Heart to play in some sweaty disco bar. Two sisters with mega harmonies front the band. With their new album, "Burn This Disco" Sister Gray is taking their rock-n-roll party across the nation.
www.sistergray.com

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Waves Upon Us



Jodie Leslie

Jodie Leslie
"Canadian singer/songwriter Jodie Leslie is currently working on her third studio project to be released in 2016 with Todd Robbins (Kelly Clarkson, Trisha Yearwood, Garth Brooks). Jodie has performed throughout Canada, the US, & in Europe, as well as performing at the 2012 Grey Cup in Toronto
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Needles to Vinyl

NDP slow to staff, open constituency offices

metr INVESTIGATES
NDP constituency offices

Party collects lease money as some offices remain empty

**Helen Pike and
Braeden Jones**
Metro | Calgary

Of the 50 NDP MLAs newly elected in Alberta's "Orange Crush," an investigation by Metro has revealed 34 of their constituency offices took nearly two months to open after the May 5 election.

By contrast, the Wildrose opposition had all offices set up before the end of May.

Metro contacted all NDP constituency offices and found many newly elected NDP MLAs are still setting up shop.

The investigation discovered the majority of the offices, 24 in total, opened in the first or second week of July and that 14 offices are still either not fully staffed or not prepared to take calls from constituents.

The investigation also revealed that the NDP government is nevertheless being paid by the Alberta Legislature for offices that are not functioning.

Jim Gurnett, the executive director of the NDP government caucus, said many of the new government's constituency office hires were unable to start right away and added that rural constituencies have had troubles filling positions. He said applications came from inside and outside of the province.

"The staffing has taken from late May until now, basically," Gurnett said. "It's completely varied."

In an email, Gurnett also said MLAs without functioning constituency offices are still trying to respond to constituents with questions via email or listening to voicemail. Outgoing Edmonton-Centre MLA Laurie Blakeman said after 18 years in her

office, she and her staff cleared out before May 14.

Between May 14 and some time in the first week of July, the Edmonton-Centre office was empty and constituents had no one to contact — a predicament many in the province faced until this month.

Greg Clark, leader of the Alberta Party, said the central job of an MLA is to serve constituents, and an office is part of that. "There's a lot of casework to do in every constituency, and we've all been given budget for staff right out of the gate, the leases for the existing constituency offices are still in place, and so really there's no excuse."

Scott Ellis, senior financial officer with the Legislative Assembly, said MLAs may choose to change their constituency office's lease, and added that many are still in the process of working through terminations and new spaces.

But the total cost of that process is mounting — so far costing Albertans approximately \$77,000, for a service not all of them are getting.

Constituency budgets vary depending on the number of voters in a riding, number of constituents, and distance to the legislature. The base annual allowance for offices is \$27,626 in rural areas and \$33,151 in urban areas.

The budget is meant to cover 12 months of office leasing, but for most government MLAs a portion was either left unspent since the election, or went towards leasing an empty space.

"It's a pretty significant concern to us that the individual MLAs are still receiving the full portion of their constituency budget, yet they are unable to open their office," said Wildrose House Leader Nathan Cooper.

"The NDP has said they are going to spend the summer listening to Albertans as they prepare the budget, I think an office would certainly help the listening process."



Go online for more local news metronews.ca



Two of several Edmonton constituency offices for NDP MLAs. A Metro investigation has found several offices are either unstaffed or unable to deal directly with constituent requests.

KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

EDMONTON-CENTRE

Former MLA still takes calls

Former MLA Laurie Blakeman served the Edmonton-Centre Riding for 18 years, one month and 24 days before losing her seat on May 5.

During that time she developed strong connections with her constituents, often through her constituency office. Within 10 days of the election, those connections lost all ways of contacting her.

"Everything disappears," she said. "The Legislative Assembly office wipes out your database, everything on all office computers."

All outgoing MLAs' legislative email is disabled, and Blakeman said she heard constituents were sending messages that "bounced back."

"They assumed (the address) was deleted so they didn't know how to get hold of me," she said. "They may have tried to and just couldn't."

Blakeman explained that issues have still been brought to her since she left office, and added these problems have often developed into complex, multi-layered ones that needed attention as people have been searching for help for a long time.

Some MLAs choose to keep the experienced staff on, taking advantage of their contacts and rapport within the community, she explained.

Her staff lost their jobs.

Blakeman has helped find work for two of her staff so far, and is still trying to help the others. BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

IN BRIEF

Company ordered to clean up fertilizer spill

A numbered Alberta company has received its marching orders for cleaning up a large fertilizer spill into one of the province's rivers. Last week, a storage tank owned by 1370996 Alberta Ltd. spilled almost 10,000 litres of ammonium nitrate, much of which ended up in the Little Bow River. Ammonium nitrate is toxic to fish. Alberta Environment has issued an environmental protection order to the company that all its clean-up plans and monitoring data must be submitted to the government for approval. The order comes after the government's local compliance manager decided the company wasn't doing enough to clean up the mess in the river, which flows across part of southern Alberta.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

POLITICS

Three Alberta MLAs had federal aspirations

The reverberations of the Alberta general election were felt even in Ottawa, where Federal NDP leader Tom Mulcair was congratulating his orange counterparts in Alberta.

Behind the scenes, the results affected the federal party's plans for the upcoming federal election this fall.

"There were three (New Democrats) who put their

name forward provincially and won who had already put their name forward federally," said federal NDP spokesman George Soule.

The NDP has nomination

meetings scheduled in Edmonton and across the country in the coming weeks.

Soule said although a few potential candidates were lost in the May election, the provincial win inspired more

people to step up federally.

"(They) were inspired by the message Rachel Notley brought, and the message Tom Mulcair is bringing," he said.

BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

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WE ASKED YOU

What's a "hipster?"

It's a popular word in Edmonton. But what do you mean when you use it? Michelle Falk/For Metro

A hipster definitely has a beard.

Hipsters are on top of culture and things that are going on — which is not a bad thing, they just make too big of a deal out of it.

I don't know if there's a definitive hipster style, but there's definitely a hipster look: beard and beard conditioners. I just came back from Brooklyn, and that's the uniform.

Well, I don't really have any idea, but I think it's just kind of a free-spirit person. They don't really care about anything; they just live their life as they go. They have a laid-back style.

When it comes to clothing, they don't really follow fashion.

I don't think there's an age limit....

I don't know anyone who's a hipster who is African-American. The ones I know are mostly Caucasian.

When I think of a hipster, I think of someone who only has organic foods and stuff like that. They care about the planet and they have, like, beanies.

They shop at like American Apparel or Urban Outfitters....

They wear long baggy sweaters with leggings, and they probably ride a bike or something. And they have their Starbucks coffee.

I've only seen white people that are hipsters.

I actually looked that up on Google one time.

I think the one definition is people that are, like, free ... people (that) buy clothes from Urban Outfitters.

That's what I got from my friends. I'm actually from Japan; I never heard that word before I came here.

I just graduated from Art and Design at the university, so lots of hipsters, I guess. They wear white shirts, skinny jeans, definitely.



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DOWNTOWN

Burrow cuts hours for safety concerns

**Andrea Ross**
Metro | Edmonton

A beloved downtown coffee shop in the Central LRT pedway is cutting hours until Edmonton transit authorities address problems that make staff feel unsafe.

Aggressive and confrontational panhandlers, buskers and other people have harassed employees since Burrow opened in October, said general manager Mike Forgie. Additionally, tip jars and an iPad point-of-sale system have been stolen from the business.

"We can't really deal with it anymore. We've gotten to the point where enough is enough," Forgie said. "It's unfair for me to ask my staff to enforce people to get out of there."

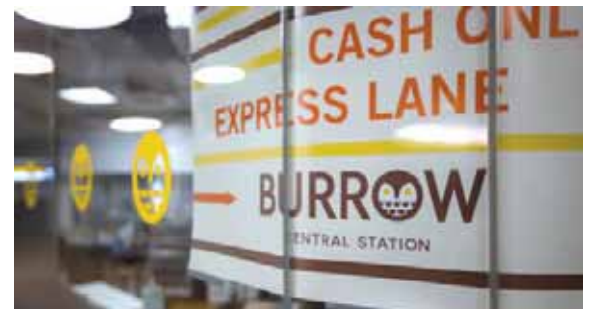
The café, one of well-known

entrepreneur Nate Box's restaurants, will now be open only between the hours of 7 and 11 a.m. (it formerly stayed open until 4 p.m.). It will stay that way until the city addresses some of the problems in the area, Forgie said.

Staff have called transit security numerous times, he added, and have faced wait times of anywhere from 20 minutes to four hours — or no response at all.

These concerns were discussed in a meeting with city officials Thursday.

"It was a really productive meeting," said Chuck Van Deel Piepers, Edmonton Transit System acting director of customer safety and security. "We are in the process of setting up meetings for regular communication with them ... and we've given them specific numbers to contact if there are issues."



After opening to great fanfare in October, with the mayor pouring the first cup, Burrow is closing early and asking the city to better enforce security in the area. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

+ CORRECTION

Usage of bike route greater than stated in Metro story

In the Wednesday, May 22 edition of Metro, it was incorrectly reported that the stretch of bike lane that was being removed was used by an average of 12

cyclists each day.

The City of Edmonton clarified that the safety audit states the full bike route along 95th Avenue is actually used by between 50 and 80 cyclists each day. METRO

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**Workers prepare the main stage for Interstellar Rodeo Thursday.** KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

The other Folk Fest

HOW TO DOUGLAS

**City's most
interesting
person shares
leisure plans****Douglas
Dollars**
For Metro

Cuties. It's your pal, Douglas, and three of my favourite summer activities are happening this weekend: garage and rummage sales (and markets), outdoor barbecues and live music. Hope to see you there.

FRIDAY:

Holy Trinity Church BBQ for Young Adults: Runs from 6 p.m. at 10037 84 Avenue. Last summer I tried to share all the garage sales I could; this year I think we're all a little deprived of community BBQ events.

Olenka & the Autumn Lovers w/Doug Hoyer & Feverfew: Doors at 9 p.m. at Brixx - 10030 102 Street. Focusing a bit more on beautiful voices and songs, this show is also one of the last chances you have to see local pop-master Doug Hoyer before he moves to Georgia in the fall.

SATURDAY:

Scratch Animation Workshop: Runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 10215 112 Street. Scratch, colour and manipulate your own stretch of film stock to make an animation.

Knox 1/4 Block Market: Runs from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m., at the intersection of 84 Avenue and 104 Street. With

a built-in market from the afternoon Strathcona Farmers' Market, the Knox church is giving their quarter-block market idea its first try, offering jewelry, vintage wares, arts, food and crafts.

The Ultimate Weird Al tribute show: starts at 9:30 p.m. at DV8 - 8130 Gateway Boulevard. Last week I shared with you 'Weird' Al Karaoke, and this week, Edmonton brings us a 'Weird' Al-themed burlesque show.

YEG Bike Party 2: 10 p.m. to late. Starts at McKernan Park, at 76 Avenue and 112 Street. I'm inviting you to a top-secret, pop-up bicycle dance party.

SUNDAY:

Parking Lot Sale #3: Runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 10323 78 Avenue. The Old Strathcona Antique Mall brings out its mix of the weird and worthless for the third event this summer.

BMO World of Creativity: Runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Presto Lumo, Art Gallery of Alberta. Owen Brierley, Lee Nielsen and Tom Rhodes have worked with the AGA to explore how artists of the past used optics and visual perception to create a wide range of 3D effects that are still in use today. Kid friendly.

ALL WEEKEND:

Interstellar Rodeo: This is Folk Fest for people who have no care for tarp fights, beer gardens or Mercedes SUV-driving hippies. Each night's headliner (St. Vincent, Father John Misty, Charles Bradley across Friday through Sunday respectively) is worth the price of admission alone.

CHAT

Mike Hudema and Carley-Jane Stanton of the Alder Food Security Society throw pop-up restaurants that use food that others might throw away. We had a chat. Here's what they said.

Mike Hudema:

I think the first thing is just realizing just because something is wilted or bruised it doesn't mean it's bad.

There are still a lot of incredible, tasty and easy things you can do with it.

Smoothies are great suggestions, soups are great for produce that's a little over its prime, as are things like tagines or stews. As you can see by the latest menu though, the sky really is the limit when it comes to possibilities.

Carley-Jane Stanton:

This really sums it up! Though I'll add that doing little things for those within your circle can do wonders to reduce food waste and make delicious food more available for your friends and family.

Taking the time to make dishes like casseroles or one-pot meals out of your floppy veg and then giving that to friends and family is a meaningful way to reduce waste and encourage community sharing of food as well.



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Local chefs in the spotlight

FOOD SCENE

World cooking competition's early event is in Edmonton

Michelle Falk
For Metro | Edmonton

The world's largest food-sports competition is fattening judges right around the corner from Taste of Edmonton in its first-ever stop in this city.

The World Food Championships is holding its first international qualifying event outside the U.S., in Edmonton, though the ultimate competition will take place in Florida in November.

Nearly all of the chefs competing in this, the Canadian Food Championships, are from Edmonton, lending the city a

decent shot at seeing one of its own in an international food event that is aired on the A&E network.

"Edmonton is getting such a big food scene," said Lindsay Porter, a chef at El Cortez restaurant, near Whyte Avenue.

"I think it's fantastic that we have this kind of food competition."

Sandeep Brar, a chef at Zinc, was cooking at his first competition ever Thursday.

He was a wild card entry, but felt confident about his performance in the seafood preliminary round.

"I think we did pretty good," Brar said.

"I saw someone else use

scallops and radishes, but they didn't look as good as ours."

Brar said the World Food Competition chose Edmonton because Taste of Edmonton is the biggest event of its kind in the country.

Chefs in the Canadian Food Championship competed in six mouth-watering categories: bacon, sandwich, seafood, pasta, dessert and burger.

The top five finalists in each category will go on to the finals on Friday and Saturday.

The finalist in each category qualifies to compete at the World Food Championship.

Finalists also receive \$2,500 in cash and a \$1,500 travel voucher for their trip.



Edmonton is getting such a big food scene, so I think it's fantastic that we have this kind of food competition.

Lindsay Porter, chef at El Cortez



A crab-cake creation after the seafood category at the Canadian Food Championships. MICHELLE FALK/FOR METRO

VETERANS

Police probe alleged cases of elder abuse

Edmonton Police are investigating reports of staff abusing seniors at the Kipnes Centre, according to a release from Health Minister Sarah Hoffman.

Hoffman is calling reports of mistreatment of three residents at Kipnes, a facility for veterans, in 2014 and early 2015 "deeply disturbing."

In a prepared statement, Hoffman said Kipnes has been given directives, and the staff involved disciplinary action, so that seniors can "live in a safe environment."

"Cases of mistreatment will absolutely not be tolerated," she added, in the release.

In another statement, Deb Gordon, vice president of Alberta Health Services, said after AHS and CapitalCare's review of the incidents, the Kipnes Centre will see changes to work assignments, enhanced staff education, and new small-scale gatherings for residents and families to share concerns.

LUCY HAINES/FOR METRO



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Beached killer whale rescued

NORTHERN B.C.

Stranded orca saved after six hours of being stuck on rock



Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

A transient killer whale has been rescued after she beached herself on some rocks in Hartley Bay on B.C.'s northern coast Wednesday morning.

The emotional story of the stranded orca's rescue was posted on Facebook on Wednesday, where it has since been making waves on social media.

"She cried often, which tore at our hearts, but as the tide came up there were many cheers as this whale was finally free after (six-plus) hours of be-



A volunteer helps to keep an orca alive after she became stranded in Hartley Bay in B.C. Wednesday. COURTESY CETACEAN LAB

ing stuck on this rock," reads the Facebook post from the group Whale Point.

"It was a team effort, and

fortunately on some level this transient orca understood that we were trying to help."

Hermann Meuter, director of

whale research group Cetacean Lab, said volunteers spent seven hours trying to keep the distressed marine mammal,

a female calf, alive until the tide came back up.

He said the group placed blankets on top of the whale

and poured seawater over her.

Eventually, the tide rose again and the whale was able to leave the rocks.

"It was incredible to see how careful and how calm she was to get herself to negotiate herself out of the situation," he said.

"She was very calm, very patient. It was awesome to watch."

Around 4:15 p.m., as the tide rose, she slowly moved forward and gave "one kick with her tail and she was free," he said.

"She took one big dive, and then she was gone," said Meuter. "She was free."

66

**It was
awesome
to watch.**
Hermann Meuter

CRIME

Girl, 7, had gun pointed at her while house was robbed



Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

A distraught seven-year-old girl had a gun pointed at her before handing over a jar of coins to intruders during a recent home invasion in Vancouver.

Vancouver police say the girl and her family won't soon get over the trauma of the vio-

lent armed robbery on June 17, in which two men forced their way into a home in the 3300 block of Dieppe Street in east Vancouver, stole a number of valuables and sent a man to hospital with head injuries.

"You can only imagine what kind of impact this will have on this young girl," said Vancouver police spokesperson Sgt. Randy Fincham.

"It's not something this family will ever forget."

Fincham said the two suspects wearing reflective construction vests forced their way into the home through the front door. Several adults were home at the time.

As the home invasion was happening, the young girl entered the same room as the suspects.

"One of the two robbers

turned his attention to the young girl and demanded money from the young girl," said Fincham.

"The only money she knew of was in the jar. She gave it to them hoping these guys would take the jar and go."

But the robbery continued until the men had stolen several items, including a rare Rolex Yachtmaster II watch, and physically assaulted one

of the adult males.

One suspect was armed with a handgun, but no shots were fired during the incident.

Fincham said there is nothing in the family's background to "cause concern" or help investigators understand why this family was targeted.

The first suspect is a white man between the ages of 25 and 45. He has a slim build, shaved head and full sleeve

tattoos on both arms.

The second suspect is a dark-skinned man, believed to be in his 20s, with a medium build and a thin beard. He was wearing a Puma baseball cap.

"It's only a matter of time before we find them," vowed Fincham.

"We don't think the public will stand for something like this happening. Somebody knows who they are."

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Dining out? Take your scale with you

HEALTH

Bluetooth device delivers nutrition info using phone

When trying to live healthy, it's easy to count the push-ups and sit-ups, but sometimes we forget to count the calories.

One Calgary developer is aiming to make healthy eating easier with a portable Bluetooth nutrition scale called Slate Scale. It connects to an iOS or Android app on your phone to deliver calorie and nutrition information based on your serving size and meal selected. It also picks up on your eating habits.

"For breakfast, most people typically eat the same thing," said Rana Varma, co-founder of Slate Scale. "It will recognize that and instead of keying it in every time, it would just



A Calgary developer offers a Bluetooth scale called the Slate Scale that you can carry with you to check your food's nutritional value. COURTESY RANA VARMA

“It would ... prompt you with your common breakfast items.”
Rana Varma

prompt you with your common breakfast items.”

The scale is small enough to fit in a purse or jacket. You can place food directly on the stainless steel surface, or put it on a plate and the scale will adjust. The app shares data with popular fitness apps, like

Fitbit and MyFitnessPal.

Currently, Slate Scale exists only as a working prototype with the developers, but Varma hopes to begin a Kickstarter crowdfunding campaign in August. For more information, visit www.slatescale.com.

AARON CHATHA/FOR METRO

RIGHTS

UN review raises concerns on Canada

The United Nations' first review in 10 years of Canada's compliance with an international rights treaty has resulted in concerns being raised on a swath of issues from pay equity to new anti-terror legislation.

In a report released Thursday, the United Nations Human Rights Committee said positive steps have been taken since the last time Canada's adherence to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights was reviewed.

But the report detailed more than a dozen areas where it finds Canada's approach lacking.

Among the committee's worries is that sweeping powers contained in the new anti-terror bill may not contain enough legal safeguards.

In particular, the report raised doubts about elements of the legislation, known as C-51, that expand the mandate of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, the new information sharing regime between security agencies and the changes to the no-fly program.

The government should consider rewriting the law to ensure it complies, the report says. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Three people dead in Quebec fire: Police

Quebec provincial police say three people died in a fire in a Quebec apartment complex on Thursday.

Police are confirming three bodies were found, but did not immediately provide any details on the victims. Eight other people were injured in the fire in

Drummondville, midway between Montreal and Quebec City.

One witness to the fire described the scene as "apocalyptic," with residents screaming from their balconies.

The cause of the fire at the three-storey, 30-unit building remains unclear.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Prime Minister Stephen Harper and B.C. Premier Christy Clark thank firefighters working on the fire lines near West Kelowna, B.C., on Thursday. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

PM greets crews fighting B.C. fires

WILDFIRES

Time for a national fire strategy, politicians say

With the hillside smoking above him, Prime Minister Stephen Harper met Thursday with a crew who have been fighting an out-of-control wildfire near West Kelowna, B.C.

Harper, Premier Christy Clark and others toured an area where residents from 70 homes were chased out by the flames Monday.

The prime minister thanked all crews and first responders who have been battling wildfires across the country.

"We know these are tough and are sometimes dangerous jobs and these efforts really are appreciated by everybody," he

said.

Harper said he has spoken with both Clark and Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall about the need to improve how such devastating fires are fought.

"When the dust settles, so to speak, on all of this, we're obviously going to sit down and assess what new or different needs to be done in the future, what we can do in terms of better co-ordination of resources, mitigation — we'll look at all those things."

Clark said both she and Wall have asked Ottawa to support provinces through an enhanced military presence and a national cache of technology that could be deployed during wildfires.

"The next step in how to make sure that we prevent fires in the following season, what we do nationally, is a conversation that we need to have after this fire season is over," she said. "We gotta be on top of this now and

it's all hands on deck right now."

Parts of northern Saskatchewan have been devastated by fires that at one point forced thousands from their homes.

On Thursday, a thick haze cloaked the Westside Road fire in the Okanagan community. Smoke could be seen billowing from the mountain as water bombers whizzed overhead. The blaze is one of 250 wildfires currently burning across B.C.

Fire information officer Noelle Kekula said a short break from hot, dry weather allowed six skimmer aircraft to attack the Westside blaze.

Evacuees from the fire clutched yellow forms and volunteers carried trays of sandwiches in and out of a temporary evacuation centre set up at the Westside Lions Community Hall Thursday. The centre opened Monday when the evacuations began.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Fibromyalgia doubles drivers' collision risk

Drivers who have been diagnosed with fibromyalgia appear to have an elevated risk of being involved in car crashes, even years after their diagnosis, research suggests.

A study in July's Journal of Rheumatology found that people with fibromyalgia had more than twice the risk of being in a serious car accident that sent them to an emergency room, compared with the driving population as a whole. THE CANADIAN PRESS

PUBLIC HEALTH

Stroke survivors need services: MD

A new study suggests the number of Canadians living with stroke-induced disabilities will rise substantially over the next decades.

More people are surviving strokes — a good news story about what can be a devastating, even fatal, attack on the brain.

But the authors of the study, published in the journal Stroke, say that with an aging and expanding population, this country will face a significant increase in the number of people who need stroke rehabilitation and support.

"The good news is that more people are surviving their stroke," said Bayley, the medical director of the brain and spinal cord rehabilitation program at the Toronto Rehab Institute.

"And therefore we're concerned that we need to be ready for how those people are going to need to be supported and also cared for and how we can optimize their quality of life while they're recovering from their stroke or after their stroke."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IN BRIEF**Alert issued for rumbling undersea volcano**

An active underwater volcano off Grenada's northern coast called Kick 'em Jenny is rumbling and disaster management authorities have been put on alert.

Since its discovery in 1939, Kick 'em Jenny has erupted at least 12 times, most recently in 2001. It hasn't caused any deaths or injuries. The Seismic Research Center at the University of the West Indies said Thursday seismic activity has increased at the submerged volcano, which rises above the sea floor 8 kilometres north of Grenada.

Jenny is one of about 100 known underwater volcanoes in the world.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lobsterman's twice lucky

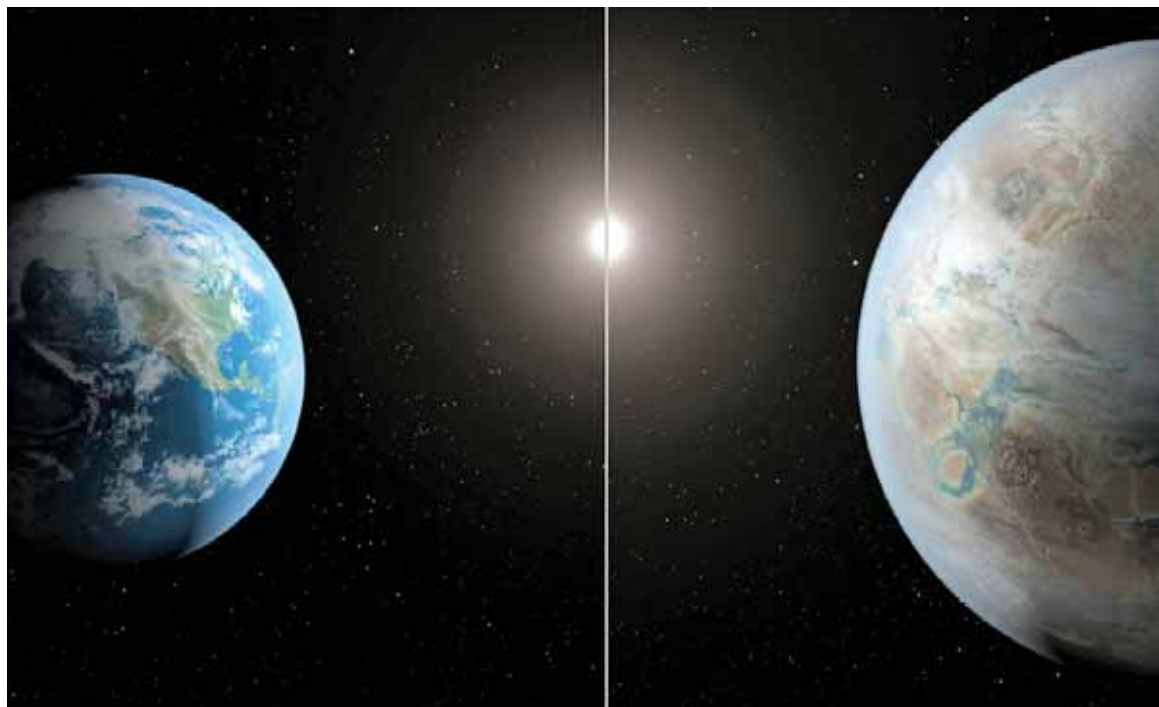
A Maine lobsterman has caught a rare orange lobster, the second time he's pulled an odd-coloured crustacean from state waters. Bill Coppersmith, of Windham, told the Portland Press Herald he was in the Gulf of Maine on Wednesday when he caught the lobster.

Robert Bayer, executive director of the University of Maine's Lobster Institute, said the odds of catching an orange lobster are one in several million. Coppersmith caught a white lobster in 1997; a one-in-100 million catch. Coppersmith has named the orange lobster "Captain Eli," after his 4-year-old grandson.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The rare orange lobster in Maine, Thursday. ROBERT F. BUKATY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



An artist's rendering from NASA, Thursday, compares Earth, left, and Kepler-452b. NASA/AMES/JPL-CALTECH/T. PYLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scientists discover Earth-like planet

SPACE

Planet orbits habitable zone of its sun-like star, NASA says

Scientists have identified a "close cousin" to Earth that's orbiting a sun-like star and might harbour life.

"It is the closest thing that we have to another place that somebody else might call home," said Jon Jenkins from NASA's Ames Research Center in California.

The researchers announced their discovery Thursday, based on observations from NASA's Kepler space telescope.

This older, bigger cousin to Earth is called Kepler-452b. What makes this planet remarkable is that it orbits its star at about the same distance that Earth orbits the

sun. What's more, its home star looks to be similar to our sun. Based on what scientists know today, Jenkins noted it's the nearest thing to another Earth-sun twin system.

"Today the Earth is a little less lonely because there's a new kid on the block," Jenkins said during a news conference. He led the team that discovered Kepler-452b.

The last Kepler discovery that had scientists gushing was just over a year ago. That close-to-Earth-size planet, Kepler-186f, also was in the habitable zone of its star. But that faint dwarf star was unlike our sun.

John Grunsfeld, NASA's science mission chief, emphasized that the exoplanet system identified Thursday — "a pretty good close cousin to the Earth and our sun" — is the closest so far. "And I really emphasize the 'so far.'"

The planet-hunting Kepler will keep churning out new

“Today the Earth is a little less lonely because there's a new kid on the block.”

Jon Jenkins, NASA scientist

discoveries, Grunsfeld noted, and possibly find even better matches for "Earth 2.0."

Kepler was launched in 2009 and has nearly 5,000 potential exoplanets to its credit — worlds beyond our solar system. It is helping to address such fundamental questions as where do we come from and where are we headed, and arguably the biggest question of all: Are we alone in the universe?

Grunsfeld said thanks to Kepler's latest finding, we're taking "one small step in answering that question today."

While scientists are uncertain whether Planet 452b is rocky like Earth, they believe there's a better than even chance it is.

As for the age and size, it is about 6 billion years old, 1.5 billion years older than Earth, and 60 per cent larger in diameter than our home planet. Its star, Kepler 452, is also older and bigger, as well as brighter than our sun.

If the planet is indeed rocky, geologists believe its mass would be five times that of Earth and its gravity would be twice Earth's. (That's right, you would weigh twice as much there.) Its atmosphere would be thicker and have more clouds, and any volcanoes would likely still be active.

Planet 452b takes 385 days to orbit its star, just a little more than Earth takes for a one-year lap. It's just a bit farther from its star than Earth is from our sun. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED STATES

Texas jail death not homicide

The autopsy of a woman who was found dead in a Texas jail revealed no injuries that would suggest she died in a violent homicide, authorities said Thursday.

Waller County prosecutor Warren Diepraam discussed details of the autopsy of 28-year-old Sandra Bland, who authorities say was found hanging in her jail cell on July 13.

The autopsy showed that Bland had no defensive injuries on her hands that would typically indicate a struggle, the prosecutor said. Some lacerations or abrasions were found on her wrists. Those injuries were consistent with a struggle while being handcuffed.

The marks around Bland's neck were consistent with a suicide, he said.

Bland was arrested three days before she was found dead. Her family and friends dispute the official finding. Texas Rangers and the FBI are investigating.

Bland's death comes after nearly a year of heightened national scrutiny of police dealings with black suspects, especially those who have been killed by officers or die in police custody. It has resonated on social media, with posts questioning the official account and featuring the hashtags #JusticeForSandy and #WhatHappenedToSandyBland.

The sheriff said Wednesday that no one gained access to the cell and contributed to Bland's death.

Bland's family has said she was not despondent and was looking forward to starting a new job at her alma mater, Prairie View A&M University.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A photo of Sandra Bland.

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Nairobi biker with an Obama flag. BEN CURTIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Africa trip draws flak

KENYA, ETHIOPIA

Rights groups slam Obama's itinerary over leaders' abuses

U.S. President Barack Obama's trip to Kenya and Ethiopia is drawing criticism that the countries are heavy-handed on human rights and basic democratic freedoms.

Obama will become the first sitting U.S. president to visit Kenya, his ancestral homeland, when he arrives Friday to attend a business summit and meetings with President Uhuru Kenyatta. And he'll be the first U.S. president to visit Ethiopia when he lands there Sunday to confer with Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn and to address the African Union, which is headquartered there.

"While both countries face real security threats, we are concerned by the way in which each government has responded, often with abusive security measures and increased efforts to stifle civil society and the media," Human Rights Watch and other advocacy organizations and analysts said in a letter to Obama.

"Many of these initiatives undermine core human rights

protections and the rule of law and are also counterproductive when it comes to reducing insecurity."

Obama said he will stress during the trip that the economic growth that Africans seek depends on good governance, including free and fair elections, strong democratic institutions, freedom of speech and the press, vibrant civic participation and respect for human rights.

"Some African nations have made impressive progress on these fronts," Obama said in an opinion piece published Thursday by the website The Root. "Others have not. My trip will be an opportunity to address these issues candidly, both publicly and privately in my meetings with leaders."

The White House says the trip, Obama's fourth to Africa as president, is an opportunity to promote trade and investment, but also to check in with Horn of Africa partners in the fight against Islamic

extremism. The U.S. and Kenya co-operate to counter al-Shabab, the Islamic militant group based in Somalia that has carried out numerous attacks in Kenya. Ethiopia shares intelligence with the U.S. and has sent troops across the border to Somalia to address instability there. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Clinton endorses 'Black lives matter'

Democratic presidential hopeful Hillary Rodham Clinton has praised South Carolina leaders for removing the Confederate flag from the statehouse grounds in the wake of the killing of nine black churchgoers in Charleston, S.C., last month.

But Clinton said that action was only symbolic, and that all Americans should unite behind the rallying cry

"Black lives matter." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Columbine killer's mom pens memoir

A memoir by the mother of Columbine shooter Dylan Klebold is scheduled for 2016, and will be launched with a prime-time interview with ABC's Diane Sawyer, Crown Publishers announced Thursday.

In 1999, Dylan Klebold and fellow senior student Eric

Harris killed 12 students and one teacher at the Columbine, Colo., high school before taking their own lives.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wildfires out of control in Montana, California

Firefighters braced Thursday against a fresh run by a wildfire that sent tourists fleeing from hotels and campgrounds in Montana's Glacier National Park, while a blaze threatening hun-

dreds of homes in Northern California shot flames 30 metres in the air. Both states are ravaged by drought, and strengthening winds greeted crews battling the Rocky Mountain blaze, which has burned more than 15 square kilometres of the Montana park. The California fire threatened 200 homes near Napa Valley and its smoke was seen as far away as San Francisco. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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2 killed, 6 hurt in shooting

LOUISIANA

Gunman opens fire in cinema, then blasts himself

A gunman opened fire at a Louisiana movie theatre in Thursday night, killing at least one person and injuring at least six others before shooting himself, officials said.

Lafayette police said they know the identity of the gunman in a movie theatre shooting but are not releasing it at this point.

The shooting took place at the Grand Theatre in the city of Lafayette, said Clay Henry, vice-president of operations for Acadian Ambulance.

Henry said eight people were brought to the hospital and that two, including the gunman, were pronounced dead on arrival. Emergency workers got the call to go to the theatre about 7:30 p.m., he said.

The Daily Advertiser quoted City Marshal Brian Pope as saying that the shooter turned the



Lafayette Police and state police following a shooting at The Grand Theatre in Lafayette, La., Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

gun on himself after firing at the others, and that six people were injured. The shooting happened about 20 minutes into a 7 p.m. showing of the Amy Schumer movie Trainwreck, according to the newspaper.

“We heard a loud pop we thought was a firecracker.”
Witness Katie Domingue

“We heard a loud pop we thought was a firecracker,” Katie Domingue told the newspaper. She said she saw “an older white man” standing up and shooting down into the theatre, but not in her direction.

“He wasn’t saying anything. I didn’t hear anybody screaming either,” Domingue said, adding that she heard about six shots before she and her fiancé ran to the nearest exit, leaving behind her shoes and purse.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLORADO SHOOTING

Death penalty possible

The jurors who convicted James Holmes of murder in the Aurora, Colo., theatre shooting unanimously decided Thursday that they can consider the death penalty in his sentencing.

They said capital punishment is justified because Holmes murdered a large number of victims — 12 — caused a grave risk of death to others, committed murder in a heinous, cruel or depraved manner and laid in wait or ambush.

One factor jurors said prosecutors did not prove was that Holmes intentionally killed a child, but the other “aggravating factors” ensure that jurors will continue to consider whether he should be put to death. Prosecutors still must clear two more hurdles before Holmes can be sentenced to die.

The defence offered no counter-argument in this phase of his sentencing. The defence will now lead the next phase, trying to show that Holmes’ mental illness and other mitigating factors make it wrong to execute him. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

911 CALL

Teen relatives held in gruesome Oklahoma family slaying



Investigators at the Oklahoma home. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police responding to a silent 911 call found five people stabbed to death at a well-kept suburban Tulsa, Okla., home, then detained two teenage male relatives of the victims after a police dog tracked them down in nearby woods.

Investigators stepped gingerly around a pool of blood near the front of the home Thursday morning. Others put up plastic tarps to shield the home from reporters and neighbours while they gathered clues.

The bodies remained at the home into late morning as police

waited on a medical examiner.

“I’ve been here 19 years and I don’t know if we’ve had more than three homicides in a year. I don’t think we’ve had a single incident of this magnitude,” said Broken Arrow Police spokesman Cpl. Leon Calhoun.

He said officers responding to the 911 call could not enter the house through the front door but heard moaning and found another way in. They dragged a 13-year-old girl who survived the attack onto the front lawn. Then they found two other victims. Unsure if they were alive or dead

but fearing a killer remained on the premises, they took them outside, where the bodies remained at midday Thursday. Three other bodies were inside.

Calhoun said police were struggling to notify next of kin because so many relatives were involved. Broken Arrow Police Sgt. Thomas Cooper said nine people were linked to the family home — the five dead, which included adults and juveniles, the 16- and 18-year-olds in custody, the 13-year-old girl in stable condition with stab wounds and an unharmed two-year-old girl. The

toddler was transferred to state custody, Cooper said.

Officers arrived before midnight Wednesday at the house near a country club after operators received an “open 911 call” — one in which no one speaks but the line remains connected. Police traced the call to the address.

“It certainly is shocking,” said Patricia Statham, a neighbour. “I feel so bad for everyone who walks into that house. You can see it in the faces of the officers when they come out.”

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Loblaw Companies Ltd. has not yet identified which stores in its chain of retail outlets will close by next year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Loblaw set to shut 52 stores across Canada

RETAIL

Pharmacies, grocery outlets included in closures

Loblaw Companies Ltd. plans to shut down 52 unprofitable stores in its chain of retail outlets by early next year as it seeks to boost operating profit.

The company said in its second-quarter earnings report Thursday that the closures will take place over the next 12 months and save \$35 million to \$40 million in annual operating income despite the loss of \$300 million in sales.

Loblaw president and executive chairman Galen Weston Jr.

said in a conference call with analysts that the company was focused on finding efficiencies as growth slows.

In a normal year, he added, the company would close 10 to 15 stores.

"Yes, it's an increase, but it's not radically different," he said. "It doesn't signal any kind of change from a strategic perspective."

The closures are distributed across the country, he said, and affect around one per cent of the company's total retail square footage.

In its latest annual report, the company had more than 2,300 locations for its many brands, including Loblaws, Shoppers Drug Mart, No Frills and Joe Fresh.

Weston would not identify

\$300 million

Closures will mean a loss of \$300 million in sales but could save up to \$40 million in operating income.

which locations are due to close as the company has yet to notify affected employees, but he said the list included gas stations, Joe Fresh locations and select pharmacies and grocery stores.

Loblaw chief financial officer Richard Dufresne said the company did a review of all of its stores following the completion of its buyout of Shoppers Drug Mart last year and identified 52 that were

consistently underperforming and unprofitable.

The company said in March it would build 50 new stores and renovate or improve more than 100 existing ones this year as part of a \$1.2 billion expansion. Weston said those plans are still on track.

On Thursday, Weston said the 52 closures included the previously announced cutbacks at Joe Fresh's U.S. operations, but would not make a "material change" to the clothing line's Canadian locations.

The company announced the closures as it reported a second-quarter profit of \$185 million or 45 cents per share in its latest quarter compared with a loss of \$456 million or \$1.13 per share a year ago.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Walmart takes over Chinese online retailer

Walmart wants to make a bigger play for Chinese consumers online. The world's largest retailer purchased the remaining stake it didn't own in China's Yihaodian, an online retailer. Walmart is attempting to follow consumers as they migrate to the Internet in

China, a country where the retailer has struggled to adjust to buying habits and local competition. Yihaodian, founded in 2008, sells more than eight million products. Walmart, which opened its first store in China 20 years ago, is closing some stores and focusing on making its 400 stores more profitable.

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Greece ready for talks

BAILOUT

Creditors expected to arrive in Athens Friday

Discussions over Greece's third bailout in five years are set to begin in Athens imminently after Greece's parliament approved Thursday tough new conditions set by European creditors.

Officials in Athens and at the European Union said negotiators are expected to start arriving on Friday, marking the first time high-level talks will be held in the Greek capital since Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras' left-wing government assumed power in late January.

The news came hours after the Greek parliament approved a second round of reforms demanded by Greece's creditors before the negotiations could start over a three-year financial bailout expected to be worth 85 billion euros (\$93 billion US).

Without the money, Greece would be unable to pay the



Greece's Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras reacts during an emergency parliament session Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

debts due over the coming three years and would likely be forced to leave the euro, Europe's shared currency.

Over the past week, parliament has approved two sets of creditor demands — the first introduced sweeping sales tax increases, the second concerned judicial and banking reforms.

Despite facing a rebellion among his own party's ranks in both votes, Tsipras' coalition government has survived. He relied on opposition parties

to push the measures through.

"We have chosen a compromise that forces us to implement a program in which we do not believe, and we will implement it because the alternatives are tough," Tsipras said.

"We are summoned today to legislate under a state of emergency."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Subsidized phones hit Rogers' profits

Higher costs from retaining its wireless customers left another mark on the profits of Rogers Communications Inc. during the second quarter, though the company fared better than analysts expected.

The telecommunications provider said Thursday that net income dropped 10 per cent in the period, which coincided with CRTC rule changes that eliminated cancellation fees for wireless contracts after two years.

Rogers posted net income of \$363 million, or 70 cents per share, for the period ended June 30. That was down from \$405 million or 76 cents in the same quarter last year.

Adjusted profits were \$412 million, or 80 cents per share, which was one cent better than analysts expected, according to a survey by Thomson Reuters.

Rogers has been scurrying throughout this year to keep wireless subscribers from straying to competitors by offering subsidized phones in exchange for a fresh contract that locks them into another two years of service. The so-called double cohort, a result of the CRTC rule changes that also eliminated three-year contracts, was expected to intensify competition as wireless companies tried to lure each other's customers.

But some analysts have been skeptical about how much of an impact the rule changes

32,000

Rogers' cable TV subscribers slid as more Canadians cancelled their packages. The division saw a decline of 32,000 TV subscribers and 11,000 landline customers.

have had on consumer behaviour.

Barclays analyst Phillip Huang said his sense is that Canadian awareness of the rule changes remained "relatively low," even after it took effect.

Rogers chief executive Guy Laurence disagreed with that. He said national media coverage has helped draw attention to the new, shorter contract requirements.

About 12 per cent of Rogers customers were still on three-year wireless contracts as of June 3, the day the rule change took full effect, the company said.

Rogers reported a modest increase in turnover of wireless customers and fewer net new postpaid subscribers. Overall, there were about 24,000 net new postpaid wireless subscribers in the quarter compared with 38,000 in the same period a year ago.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



We have chosen a compromise that forces us to implement a program in which we do not believe ...

Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras



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RETAIL

Starbucks' clients swallow price hikes

Starbucks said Thursday its quarterly profit jumped 22 per cent as pricier drinks and food helped lift sales at its U.S. cafes.

The Seattle-based coffee chain said sales rose 8 per cent in its flagship Americas unit. In the U.S., which makes up the majority of the unit, the company has been pushing up sales with price hikes and offerings like S'more Frappuccinos and Flat White espresso drinks that cost a little more.

Starbucks Chief Financial Officer Scott Maw said that people are even "trading up" to newer, pricier breakfast sandwiches, such as one served on a croissant bun. Maw noted that more people are getting food with their orders as well.

Customer visits are increasing too, boosted by the company's mobile app. The app, which incorporates its loyalty program, encourages people to return by rewarding them



New offerings that cost a little more have been pushing up sales at Starbucks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

with "stars," which can be used toward free drinks and food.

Lower costs for ingredients like dairy helped improve the company's operating margin.

On a global basis, Starbucks Corp. said sales rose 7 per cent at established locations. That included an 11 per cent increase in Asia and a 3 per cent increase in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

New cars boost retail sales

Shoppers buying new cars and trucks helped boost retail sales in May by 1.0 per cent to \$43 billion in Canada, the third increase in four months, Statistics Canada said Thursday.

Retail sales were up in nine of 11 subsectors, representing 92 per cent of retail trade.

Retail sales were up in nine provinces in May with Ontario, Nova Scotia and, to a lesser extent, British Columbia accounting for most of the increase. Saskatchewan was the lone province to post weaker sales, edging down 0.1 per cent.

Sales at motor vehicle and parts dealers rose 1.3 per cent, boosted by a 2.0 per cent increase at new car dealers. Used car dealers reported a 1.2 per cent drop in sales.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



THE KOHLER REPORT: ON CELLPHONES AND AWKWARDNESS



I will continue using a landline until it's so old it becomes as cool as a mason jar is today.

I am routinely mocked for the fact that I still have a landline.

When I call people from the number, they love to joke, "Who is this, my grandma?" But while I admit that keeping a home phone is costly — and looks as outdated in my living room as a bowl of potpourri — it's well worth it. It's the only phone in my life I can count on. Not like that flaky, inconsistent, deadbeat version of a phone I call my "cell."

I don't know if the technology has declined or if my patience has waned, but I often find that the experience of talking on a cellphone is as

much an existential crisis as it is a conversation.

Like those calls where you can hear the person about half the time, as if someone were pointing a remote control at them and pressing "mute" every few seconds. The first couple of times it happens, you might say "What was that?" but after a while you start feeling like the annoying one, even though it's them you can't hear. You try your best to piece the sentences together using only the words you have ("I've been...and...depressed...I'm...so...eating...know it...helps?") And you're like, "Yeah, I find eating ice cream therapeutic, too," and just hope that what you're saying makes sense.

Or what about those calls

that make your friend sound like they're in an echo chamber, when you happen to know she's just a few blocks away at a Starbucks? Or those times you're trying to talk to a business associate who sounds like they're conducting their side of the meeting under water; it's really stressful when your livelihood depends on someone whose every word seems to be caught inside a bubble.

Or what about that quirk of technology that makes it so the person who's talking can't hear you until they stop. This makes it impossible to interject. They can't hear you if you laugh or say things like, "Right, right" or "Mm-hmm." Cellphones strip you of half the tools you need to have a normal, healthy conversation.

By the way, I don't have some 1999 Nokia piece of poo, nor do I use that service provider that's available only at 7-11. I have an iPhone 6 and my service provider rhymes with Smell Us. Is this the best we can do?

And I know what you're going to say: If you don't like talking on your cell, then just do like the Millennials and text. But I don't want to text — it takes too long and it's impersonal and it's destroying us like the impact that destroyed the dinosaurs.

No. What I will do is continue using my landline until Bell decides to stop providing me with — and charging me through the nose for — the service. I will continue using a landline until it's so old it becomes as cool as a mason jar is today.

Mock me all you want. At least I'll be able to hear you.

Rebecca Kohler is a standup comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter @becca_kohler.



Were the Pan Am Games worth it? Visit metronews.ca to answer our poll.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

How two stubborn people shape up at marriage boot camp

Welcome to the midway point of the speediest season of the year.

Or for me, the end of marriage boot camp.

C. — my American boyfriend — was visiting for a few months. As our time wound down, and people asked him how it's been, "marriage boot camp" was his answer.

We had a lot to pack into very little time and space, playing house in my one-room studio apartment. We'd been telling each other over Skype that we wanted to be together. This summer, we actually had to be together, morning and night, and all weekend long.

As two previously very single people, it was a negotiation to even cross the street. One person would step out into traffic, while the other tugged them back.

As two stubborn people, we could suck the fun out of a sunny afternoon on a patio as we learned to debate, kindly.

We discovered what it's like to be around the moody love of your life, what to say, and when to shut up.

For brief moments, the tension felt like that big wooden wall on an obstacle course: impossible to overcome.

My way of working through things is to talk, talk, talk. C.'s musings are more likely to drop in unexpectedly from thin air, like a falling feather.

But we did talk about what

marriage would look like — or more often, not look like.

"Our kids are going to run around barefoot," C. warned me one day.

"I don't want to fight over money," I declared. Our statements acted like warning shots across each others' bows. Beware! This is what it's going to be like forever!

Marriage boot camp did clarify things. Chief among them, how sure we both are. How happy we both are. Except for when it wasn't, the summer was the most fun.

I've been wondering how much people do this — talk about what marriage will be like — before they pull the trigger.

So I called my most communicative, inquisitive of friends. She and her husband spent four evenings, a few hours each time, talking about what marriage would be like, in order to write their vows.

"People get so busy with planning their wedding, it's like they spend more time thinking about seating arrangements than the details of what they're vowing to," she said.

C. and I aren't at risk of that. For a long-distance relationship on fast-forward, it's perhaps not surprising we attended marriage boot camp before engagement. And as with all good boot camps, I'm feeling stronger.

Happy face/Sad face

From **chicken sickness** to **landsliding lakes**, Metro weighs in on the news making headlines this week



Forgetting past failures

News of the first drug that slows down Alzheimer's has scientists forgetting how hopeless they felt about managing memory loss. Stage-3 clinical trials — the last step before the pill goes to market — of a drug called solanezumab showed the progress of dementia slowing by a third, if treatment started early. More trials will be needed to confirm the results, but science is close to creating a memory medication that does more than just reduce symptoms. SOURCE: BBC



Beware of fowl play

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control has ID'd an unusual culprit in a 40-state salmonella outbreak: Backyard chickens. Urban farmers, the CDC says, "are bringing live poultry into their homes, and ... kissing or cuddling with live poultry." Chickens harbour salmonella bacteria that's harmless to them but causes a nasty stomach bug in humans. Handwashing — and minimizing contact with feathered friends — can reduce the spread. SOURCE: WASHINGTON POST



The fastest fruit salad

Sam Van Aken, a professor at Syracuse University, uses crafty grafting to create trees that bear 40 different kinds of stone fruit, including heirloom varieties of plums and apricots. Despite his choice of materials, he's not a botanist, but an artist. A tree he planted in 2011 now has all 40 varieties grafted on. In four years or so, it will be blooming periodically throughout the summer, producing a different kind of fruit each time. SOURCE: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC



Lake braces for spectacular slide

Some time in the next few months, a small lake perched 600 feet above the Mackenzie Valley in the Northwest Territories will burst through the slice of earth holding it back — and fall. It will be a spectacular sight that transforms the landscape, and melting permafrost caused by climate change is to blame, scientists say. The unnamed lake near Fort McPherson is buttressed by frozen ground that has not thawed to this extent since the end of the last ice age. SOURCE: THE CANADIAN PRESS

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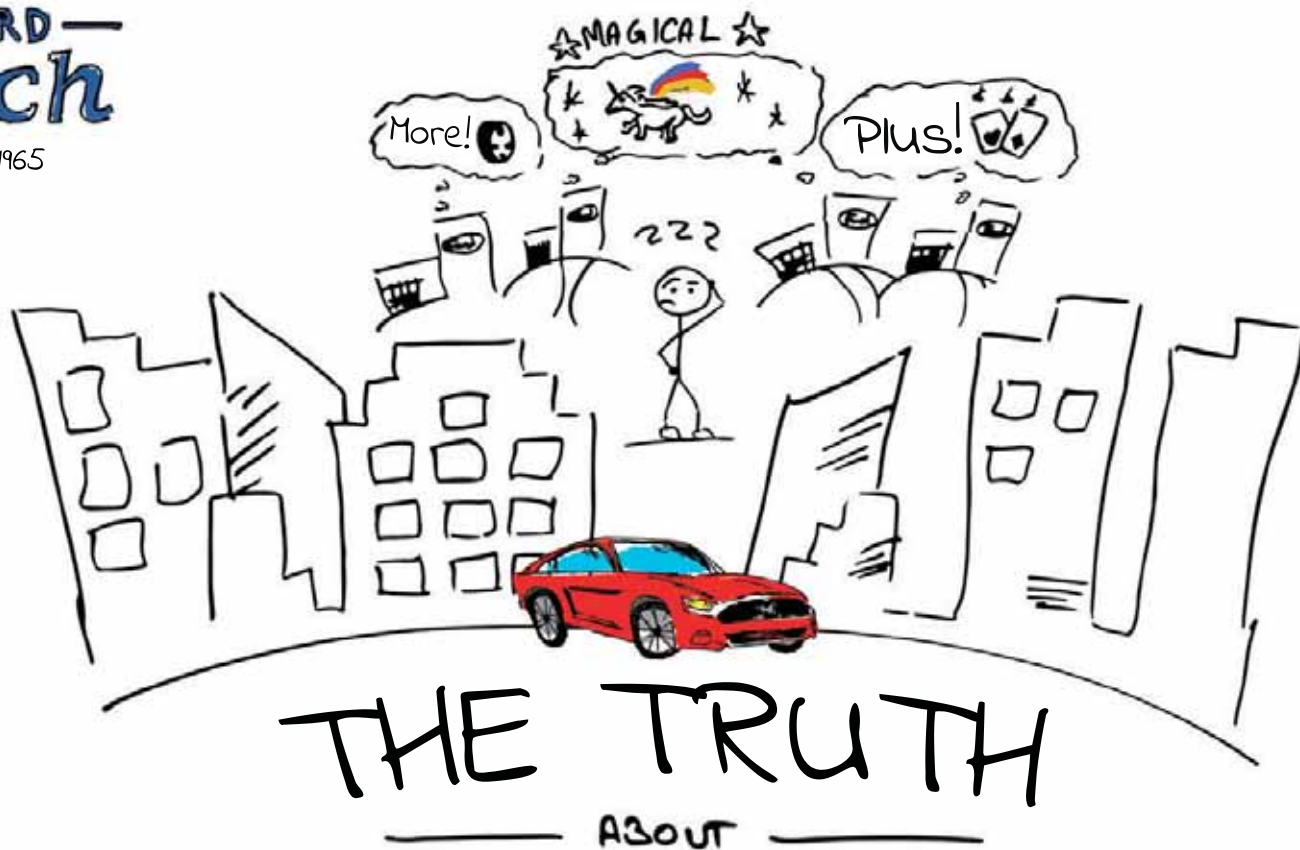
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COMEDY

Can Pixels save Sandler's career after a string of flops?

IN FOCUS

Richard Crouse



From a career point of view, Pixels may be the most important movie of Adam Sandler's career. The big-budget action comedy sees the comedian help save the world from aliens who attack using classic video arcade games like PAC-MAN, Donkey Kong and Centipede as models for their assaults.

In real life, it's not Donkey Kong Sandler needs to battle, but audience apathy. A string of box office flops, controversies and terrible reviews — critic Liam Maguire was so horrified by Sandler's 2011 "comedy" Jack and Jill he wrote, "Burn this. This cannot be seen. By anyone" — have threatened to torpedo his career.

Even his own studio seemed to have turned against him. In last year's Sony email hack, one employee complained, "we continue to be saddled with the mundane, formulaic Adam Sandler films."

Movies like Billy Madison, Happy Gilmore and Big Daddy were hits that established his persona as the angry but sweet everyman, a misfit character



Matthew Lintz, left, as Matt, and Adam Sandler as Sam Brenner with Q*bert, in Pixels, which opens nationwide today. SONY PICTURES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

he trotted out for two decades. Occasionally he'd get serious in pictures like Punch-Drunk Love or Reign Over Me and soak up some good reviews, but by and large, the Sandlerian oeuvre has been ripe with anger management issues and jokes of ... how to put this delicately: a gastrointestinal nature. Not highbrow, but that's OK — not everything has to be Noel Coward — as long as audiences care.

But at some point, it seemed they stopped caring.

Perhaps it was the inconsistent nature of his movies. Just when you think he's turned a corner with the excellent Reign

Over Me into interesting adult roles he slaps you in the face with the zero-star rated follow-up I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry.

Or maybe it's quality control issues. Last year Kevin Nealon told me about being offered a role in the Sandler-produced Grandma's Boy.

"It was so lowball and crass," said Nealon. "I thought it might be a little embarrassing to be in that one. So I told Sandler I'd probably pass on it and he called me and said, 'I really hope you do this because if you don't do it and it's a big hit I'll feel bad, but if you do it and

it's not a big hit, no one is going to see it anyway.'"

That attitude may be realistic but it doesn't exactly speak to high standards. More than that, however, is the static nature of Sandler's comedy. His everyman character hasn't changed much throughout the years. Usually these days he lives in nicer houses or has more money but it's the same old shtick.

The old saying, "He got bigger, but didn't grow up," perfectly applies to Sandler.

He may have matured (chronologically at least) but the urination gags and rage-a-holic jokes that characterize

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Paper Towns ★★★	HOW RATING WORKS ★★★★★ SEE IT ★★★ WORTHWHILE ★★ UP TO YOU ★ SKIP IT
Irrational Man ★	
American Heist ★★	

his comedy haven't.

We don't need to feel sorry for Adam Sandler. He has movies in the pipeline and a new deal with Netflix, but Pixels is still an important moment for him. Rolling Stone called his last film, The Cobbler, "beyond awful and beyond repair," and

it went on to become his biggest flop to date.

If Pixels is a hit, and it may be, the trailer generated 34.3 million views worldwide in its first 24 hours online, he will be redeemed — at least until his next movie's new round of toilet humour and cleavage shots.

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Jake gets fighting fit for boxing drama

TRANSFORMATION

Gyllenhaal piles on muscle and emotion in *Southpaw*

Richard Crouse
For Metro

As World Middleweight Boxing Champion Billy Hope in the new film *Southpaw*, Jake Gyllenhaal learned a thing or two about anger. He plays a man ruled by fury who must learn to fight with his head, not just his fists.

"That journey was really interesting for me," says Gyllenhaal, "the idea that I could explore that in my own anger. Sometimes things pop up, things that could be very destructive in my own life, like my own anger and I think, 'Man, if I was only curious about this feeling instead of letting it kind of control me. If I could only stop and say, 'What is that?'"

"I saw this Australian com-

edian talking about gun control and he was saying, 'Everyone should own a musket because by the time you finish putting the powder in and everything it takes a minute-and-a-half and by the time a minute-and-a-half has passed (the anger is gone) and you're like, 'You're not a bad guy. It's fine.'"

Gyllenhaal says studying the character set him on a "journey about being curious about myself," which seems counterintuitive. Doesn't the actor inform the character?

"I think the experience of preparing for a role, meeting people along the way while you're preparing for a role and the experience of that is what I learn from. It is really that that teaches me.

"The people I spend time with, the accumulation, that's

“

I think the idea of being tough is also about admitting your fears.

Jake Gyllenhaal

what I learn from. I don't think I bring my own experience yet to a role. Right now my life is about learning from other people."

One revelation from his time inhabiting Billy Hope's persona was insight to what made Billy tick — fear.

"Billy is a really scared character who is fronting in some ways to present himself in a certain way. I think fear is a great motivator for him. That was a big thing. I think the idea of being tough is also about admitting your fears."

The 34-year-old actor certainly has no fear when choosing roles. From the extreme weight loss of *Nightcrawler* to *Southpaw*'s physical transformation — he gained 15 pounds of sheer muscle — Gyllenhaal is curating a challenging and interesting résumé.

"I think the people I admire as artists are the people who really listen to themselves even if it is to the detriment of what people might consider success. I'd rather be myself and do what I love than listen to someone else and follow that role and be unhappy."



Jake Gyllenhaal plays Middleweight Boxing Champion Billy Hope in *Southpaw*, which comes out July 24. SCOTT GARFIELD/THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INTERVIEW

50 Cent on acting, *Southpaw*

Matt Prigge
For Metro

The day before our phone interview with 50 Cent is the day he publicly declares bankruptcy. It doesn't take long to get an email asking that we abstain from mentioning his business affairs, as well as a couple other heavy topics. Despite this, 50 Cent is in good spirits, friendly and talkative when discussing *Southpaw*, the boxing drama starring Jake Gyllenhaal as Billy Hope, an anguished pugilist angling for a comeback after the death of his wife (Rachel McAdams).

The rapper and businessman plays Jordan Mains, his manager-promoter, and it's a subject he knows a lot about, having been involved in boxing for even longer than he's been appearing in movies.

Given your knowledge of boxing, how realistic did you find its portrayal of this world?

There were a lot of parallels to real boxing. It felt like a real situation. It wasn't pretending to be someone who wasn't a real person.

There's a point where I'm saying, "On his way out make sure he doesn't break some s—." That's an afterthought, but it defines how he handles circumstances with his fighters. The model they live by is: if it makes money, it makes sense. That's Jordan Mains and Billy Hope's world view. They've been on this journey together. He didn't earn anything if Billy didn't earn anything.

Jordan starts off as someone who really seems to have Billy's back but eventually reveals he values business over their friendship. Do you feel he adopts a defensible position?

Well, he loves Billy initially. But what happens with fighters is when you use logic with people aren't using that as a compass, you can become frustrated. You'll start to resent them at certain points. The fighters are throwing jazz hooks and uppercuts for something that will net \$250 million for 36 minutes of action. It's tough to tell them what their fight is

worth. They expect so much for fighting the top guys in their weight class. Eventually they just want all the money. When they become a name you don't argue with them, because they don't need anybody else to make the next fight. If a manager says, "F— this, I'm leaving," then there will be a whole new group of people who will come to him and say, "Alright, champ, let's make the next fight."

Do you see many parallels between boxing and the music industry? Both revolve heavily around stars who heavily rely on family and friends to support them.

Yeah. They come from the same places. The fighters, they're coming from low-income situations in inner cities. They can relate to not having very much. When you make it, and you get to the leagues, if you're a baseball or basketball player, or you get to the championship, if you're a fighter, you say, "When I do get there I'm going to be straight. I'm going to look out for my people." Their happiness is connected to those closest to them. If you've made it to the point where you can spend a little cash, you do things for them.



50 Cent.
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THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN

Journalist A.J. Liebling's best prose was about boxing, a subject so brutal that it's perplexing how he wrote so prolifically on it



I watched the trailer for *Southpaw*, which hits theatres July 24, the day it was released because I've never met a boxing movie I didn't like. And because the trailer reveals the tragedy that afflicts boxing champion Billy "The Great" Hope (Jake Gyllenhaal), I feel I can reveal the spoiler too: his wife (Rachel McAdams) dies and Billy loses his title, his family, his wealth — everything.

You know what that means: Billy must clobber his way back to the top. That includes a prerequisite training montage. They're my favourite, especially the sequences from the first four Rocky films (I haven't seen *V* through *XXXV*.)

The first three, which I studied via VHS tapes as a kid, use the same theme song. But Rocky IV's montage is set to a different tune.

While Balboa's Russian opponent Drago runs on a futuristic treadmill flashing with lights and lasers, Rocky climbs a snow-covered mountain — a mountain! — then shouts "Drago!" from the top.

If that's not good movie making, I don't know what is.

THE MOVIE:
SouthpawTHE MEAL:
'Beef and tomato'

My colleague and friend Lainey likes Rocky IV best. On a recent afternoon in her office, she recited from memory Rocky's soliloquy after he defeats Drago on his Siberian home turf: "If I can change, and you can change, everybody can change!" she yelled triumphantly. "Basically, Rocky conquers communism. He ends the Cold War," Lainey said. "It's a perfect movie!"

Lainey writes about gossip and no doubt she'd notice her name drop. But I'm not interested in connecting myself to celebrity (actually, Rachel McAdams went to my high school, but whatever): I'm interested in the food Lainey eats. Because although gossip is central to the human experience, food informs it.

We've been sharing lunch duties since January.

The first time I tried her "beef and tomato" — marinated flank steak sliced impossibly thin, stewed tomatoes, bok choy and King mushrooms served over rice — it was like a punch to my solar plexus: it took my breathe away.

It's a dish she grew up eating. Nothing fancy, she told me. Maybe every family has one — a dish that you've had

a thousand times but never tire of. A dish filled with meaning and memory.

Journalist A.J. Liebling wrote beautifully about food and memory. But his best prose was about boxing, a subject so brutal that it's perplexing how he wrote so prolifically on it — and how it's so profoundly about the human experience.

"To write about boxing is to write about oneself," Joyce Carol Oates, whose father took her to see matches as a child, said, "however elliptically, and unintentionally."

It's no wonder I love both Liebling and Carol Oates' writing because the writing you love, whether it's about food or sports, is often about love itself. And no wonder that the food that's dearest to you is the sort you want to share with the people you love most.

Lainey has promised that one day she'll teach me how to make her "beef and tomato." Part of me never wants to learn. That way she'll have to keep making it for me, forever.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*.

MOVIE NEWS

Amy Poehler to play NBA basketball coach

Actress and comedian Amy Poehler is set to produce and star in an upcoming comedy in which she'll take the role of a basketball coach with a chance for glory.

Currently lending her voice to Pixar's *Inside Out* in the role of Joy, Poehler wrapped up a seven-season

run as the star of *Parks and Recreation* earlier this year.

Her new project will see the actress play a basketball coach whose career has fizzled out when she is called on to lead an NBA team, according to *Variety*.

Ike Barinholtz (*The Mindy Project*) will appear in the film and is also co-writing the script with David

Stassen.

Poehler is next set to star in *Sisters with Barinholtz* and Tina Fey. AFP

Amy Poehler
AFP



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5 DISNEY CHARACTERS TOO COMPELLING FOR THE KINGDOM

Origin stories have been hot since Wicked became a bestseller. While Maleficent was a good effort by Disney at a darker origin story, there's definitely plenty more material to mine in Disney movies. We picked five characters whose backstories are just waiting to be turned into films, from quiet indies to provocative period pieces. **EVA KISS/METRO IN NEW YORK**



1 Mary Poppins

Considering she's got a movie named after her, we sure didn't know much about Mary. England is chockablock full of strange things, but a magical nanny who flits about on the wind surely must rate some level of suspicion. Where did she come from?

Our bet: She's Pandora, working to spread her sunny disposition to make up for the dark things she unleashed on the world.



2 Jiminy Cricket

Morality tales tend to have a message for both the person who needs to learn a lesson and mentor. Ever think Pinocchio wasn't the only one being tested by the Blue Fairy?

Jiminy has a boatload of personal style, but that doesn't qualify him to be the voice of reason in a little boy's ear. Maybe he wasn't always so honest either, and guiding Pinocchio is his chance to find his own way. This flick could be the fun, animal-centric version of Sister Act: maybe he was a payday loan manager or a crooked gambler who wants to turn a new leaf. He joins Big Brothers and shepherding the boy is his way of making things right.

3 Edna

A younger Edna as an haute couture-wearing bookworm who could stitch a welt seam precisely timed to a centrifuge cycle would be too obvious a backstory.

Picture instead: a focused and exemplary talent in fashion design school, Edna struggled to find her niche after graduation. She gets a job making uniforms. Then one day a lab tech brings her a coat, wanting alterations done to add some flare. Edna becomes curious about materials she finds inside the jacket's pockets. Turns out, the technician is working to design safer clothes for people in dangerous jobs. Edna's knowledge of stitching and structuring fabric comes in handy. The two collaborate. Edna's increasingly outrageous designs gain the attention of the superhero community.

Ta-da! A Bechdel test-friendly adventure about girl power and teamwork.



4 Fairy Godmother

Cinderella has a Fairy Godmother and the only time she makes herself known is to spot Cindy some designer duds and a ride to a fancy party? There's something else happening here.

Consider this: Nothing that happened in Cinderella couldn't have been accomplished without slipping a little LSD into the well to make her think the mice turned into footmen and the pumpkin into a carriage. No, the Fairy Godmother isn't a real fairy... or godmother.

5 Genie

Hidden in a cave, only able to be retrieved by a righteous man who doesn't care for gold — whoever used their wish to set that enchanted trap must've had some taste of what Genie was capable of. Perhaps the Agrabah desert was the collateral damage of a prior master's megalomania? Or maybe, Genie wasn't always bound to a lamp.

Maybe he was called Loki on another continent, or Kokopelli to the Native Americans, a trickster with unlimited power and no scruples. Until one day he messed with the wrong shaman, who gave him a moral code and enslaved him, condemning him to helping the same humans he'd toyed with.



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Cobie Smulders delivers

INTERVIEW

HIMYM actor stars in new film about an unplanned pregnancy

Matt Prigge
Metro in New York City

Since her nine-year stint on *How I Met Your Mother* ended, actress Cobie Smulders has divvied her time between Marvel business — she's played S.H.I.E.L.D. biggie Maria Hill in four projects — and indies.

Earlier this season she cussed up a storm in Andrew Bujalski's fitness-centred *Results*. In *Unexpected* she's only slightly less grouchy as a young teacher who accidentally gets knocked up. Her crankiness over her changing body, coupled with anxiety over trying to keep her career going, dovetails with her friendship with a low-income student (Gail Bean) who's also expecting.

Metro catches up with Smulders to talk about Canada and portrayals of pregnancy in film.

This movie is very frank about what pregnancy is like for women. Do you feel other films have captured that?

None of them have gotten it right until now (laughs)! I mean, even in ours it's hard not to rely on the comedic elements of a movie dealing with pregnancy: the labour, the Lamaze breathing, the pregnancy cravings. I just don't

think we've seen a woman deal with the fact that she has to stop working, or feel like she's losing her identity through pregnancy.

When you're pregnant and in a relationship, you have to ask, "What are you going to do?" or "When are you going to go back to work?" if you have a strong career. It's different for everybody. I thought it was interesting portraying a woman who has such a strong drive to keep working, to be a part of the work force, to have a passion other than her family — to try and wrap her head around it while going through so many changes.

In America there's a fight to get more maternal leave, or at least keep it at what it is.

I hope we can get to a place in our society where every job and every workforce is understanding towards having a family — that a woman has to take a break and that a man does, too.



Growing up in Canada we have paternity leave, which is amazing, as well as a healthy maternity leave. In this industry I've been lucky. You are self-employed. I love checking that box whenever I'm filling out a government form.

There's something very freeing about being on your own schedule, but there's also something terrifying about taking time off.

Do you feel your long history in TV has helped you deal with indies, their long days and limited resources?

Well, no. I feel I was very spoiled with *How I Met Your Mother*, because it's a sitcom.

By the end of it, we were only working a couple of days a week. We were such a well-oiled machine at that point that we'd bang out 20 to 30 pages of script a day like it was nothing.

I'm very good at memorizing lines now. Now in films you're at the mercy of locations and times and all that.

But it makes things interesting.

Kris Swanberg comes from a very collaborative film-making background. Could you sense that you were involved in the process?

She was very open with me, probably because I related to what Samantha was going through, being a mother myself, and being a working mom at that. I was able to have a lot of input in the script. She'd even add scenes for me.

I was really adamant about — I wouldn't say adamant. The Canadian version of being adamant is saying, "Hey, I had an idea, don't worry about it, I know you've scouted everything and it will be a pain in the ass, but I had this idea ... if it's OK, if it's not too much trouble."

That's me being adamant.

Elizabeth McGovern plays your mom here, and I'm sure everyone has said this but it's really uncanny how alike you two look.

Kris was quite inspired by the movie *She's Having a Baby*, in which Elizabeth McGovern plays the pregnant wife. She told me to watch it before we shot.

Two weeks later Elizabeth McGovern was playing my mom. She and I have that Wonder Woman gene in us: dark hair, blue eyes and white, white skin. But it was weird.

It really hit home when we were together for the first time that there's a lot of likeness. Listen, if I end up looking like that at her age I'll take it.

+ BACKGROUND

Hollywood's blockbuster pregnancy pictures

Kris Swanberg didn't realize it until after she started working on the movie but she was making on one of the only Hollywood films to explore pregnancy from the female perspective.

Here are a few of the biggest hits that featured pregnancy as part of the plotline, and most are from a male POV.

Knocked Up (2007)

Seth Rogen plays a stoner who reluctantly does the right thing after impregnating a one-night stand.

Nine Months (1995)

After his girlfriend gets pregnant, the life of child-psychologist Hugh Grant slips into sheer disarray.

Baby Mama (2008)

Uptight, career-minded Tina Fey hires slouch Amy Poehler to be her surrogate.

The Back-Up Plan (2010)

Jennifer Lopez meets the man of her dreams immediately after being artificially inseminated with twins.

Junior (1994)

The inconceivable happens when Arnold Schwarzenegger agrees to carry a baby to term after a wacky fertility experiment. STEVE GOW/ FOR METRO



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Excitable Green behind-the-scenes

ADAPTATION

Author ecstatic with his books being made into features



Ned Ehrbar
Metro|Life

Paper Towns is only the second movie made from a novel by John Green, so it's understandable that the Fault in Our Stars author is still not the most savvy person on set. It's not really a problem, except when his enthusiasm can ruin the audio for a pivotal love scene.

"I was so excited because (actor) Justice (Smith) put this line back in, 'I always think about imagining Santa complexly when I'm eating my Lucky Charms with my black Santa spoon.' I know that I wrote that line, but I also find it very funny. And I found

it particularly funny when Justice was saying it," Green explains. "I was laughing the whole time they were making out, jumping up and down and yelping. But I thought I was far enough away that my joy would not be audible. But it turns out that yeah, they had to fix the audio. They have to take out my joy."

That sense of audible joy is justifiable, given the breakout success Green has found in film following similar success with his books.

Last year's Fault in Our Stars was a certified hit, and he and

the team behind it are hoping for a repeat with Paper Towns. But don't expect a reread.

"This isn't Fault in Our Stars 2: Electric Boogaloo. It's clearly a very different film, and it has a very different tone and a different world," Green says. "We all knew that we were making a very different kind of movie from The Fault in Our Stars. So I didn't feel pressure, I just felt excitement."

"I was much more nervous the first time around than this time around because I knew

I trusted everyone involved in the project. So for me it's just been joyful, the whole process, which is really lucky because authors generally do not feel that way about the movie adaptations of their books."

And onscreen, at least one familiar face from the previous film takes center stage, with Fault in Our Stars supporting player Nat Wolff stepping into the lead for Paper Towns. It's something Green would totally take credit for

if he could.

"I'm not a movie executive, I don't know how to make movies," Green says. "But pretty much every day during the Fault in Our Stars shoot I would lean forward to the producers and say, 'You know what you guys should do? You should make a movie of Paper Towns.' And you know who should play Q? Nat Wolff."

"Nat Wolff should play Q. Have you guys thought about Nat Wolff?" And, yeah, it worked."

STAR CARA DELEVINGNE

Cara can't drive

A major part of the plot for Paper Towns involves an epic, end-of-senior-year road trip up the east coast from Orlando, Fla. to upstate New York. While Cara Delevingne's character, Margot Roth Spiegelman, is the one who sets the trip in motion by disappearing and leaving clues for neighborhood pal Q (Nat Wolff), she hasn't had much experience on the road herself.

"I don't drive, I've never been on one. But if you're offering, I'm very happy to take you up on that offer," she says with a game grin. "I am better than Nat at driving."

In the film — and in the bestselling John Green novel upon which it is based — Margot is constantly at odds with her disapproving parents, who just don't understand her eccentric ways and have lost their patience.

That was one part of the mysterious character that Delevingne had trouble relating to.

"My parents have always been very supportive of what I've wanted to do," she says. "I wanted to be an actor since I was really young and I wanted to do that as early as possible. But all they wanted was for me to be happy, to finish school and do that."

But there might be some friends' parents who think she's a bad influence, though. "No comment," she offers with a laugh when pressed on the subject.

NED EHRLBAR/METRO HOLLYWOOD



Cara Delevingne stars in Paper Towns. HANDOUT

“It's just been joyful ... which is really lucky because authors generally do not feel that way about the movie adaptations.”

John Green, author

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Two New Yorkers team up

IRRATIONAL MAN

Parker Posey appears in her first Woody Allen flick

Matt Prigge
Metro in New York City

Parker Posey first became a darling of NYC indie film 20 years ago with Party Girl, and since then she's had a front row seat to how the city and the industry have changed. Now she's starring in her first Woody Allen film, Irrational Man, and while it might seem surprising she hasn't teamed up with him until now, she says it was worth the wait.

When you get called for a

Woody Allen movie, that's got to be a pretty special moment.

Yeah, it's as if he's created a language for actors. He's an inspiration to filmmakers and actors who are comedic and dramatic at the same time. He writes characters that hold a lot of dynamic qualities, and no one understands women and writes women like he does. Some of these lines that I got to say I was very excited about.

How was actually working

with him?

It's amazing. I got the pages, and the writing was so loose and natural. It was funny to me — not that there were jokes in there. There were a few little quips. He also said, "No smiling. You won't be smiling." And then of course I'd be like, "OK!" Sure thing, you know? He's just such a talent. It's so great. It wasn't easy, but it shouldn't be easy.

The trailer for this film is very careful about what

actually happens in it.

I know, it's great. What about that music? That music that takes you out of the seriousness of what this man is doing, what he's done. This is a really dark story, and it's very unsettling. I was breathless after I saw it.

I love that it takes place now and that he is portraying it in a world of college. It's great because here he is at all of 80 giving the conversation to moviegoers about philosophy and meaning.



Parker Posey in Irrational Man. HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Now playing



ANIMATION, COMEDY Pixels

Director: Chris Columbus,
Starring: Adam Sandler,
Peter Dinklage,
Kevin James, Josh Gad

As kids in the 1980s, Sam Brenner, Will Cooper, Ludlow Lamonsoff, and Eddie "The Fire Blaster" Plant saved the world thousands of times — at 25 cents a game in the video arcades. Now, they're going to have to do it for real.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **10%** **Audience:** **+ 89%**



DRAMA Paper Towns

Director: Jake Schreier
Starring: Cara Delevingne,
Nat Wolff

Adapted from the bestselling novel by author John Green (The Fault in Our Stars), Paper Towns is a coming-of-age story centring on Quentin and his enigmatic neighbour Margo, who loved mysteries so much she became one.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **73%** **Audience:** **+ 95%**



DRAMA Southpaw

Director: Antoine Fuqua
Starring: Jake Gyllenhaal,
Rachel McAdams

Billy Hope seemingly has it all with an impressive career, a beautiful and loving wife and an adorable daughter and a lavish lifestyle. When tragedy strikes and his lifelong manager and friend (Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson) leaves him behind, Hope hits rock bottom and turns to an unlikely saviour at a run-down local gym.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **50%** **Audience:** **78%**

DOCUMENTARY

Survivors break silence

**Steve
Gow**
For Metro

Joshua Oppenheimer's Oscar-nominated first-hand telling of the atrocities of 1960s Indonesian death squads in The Act of Killing has been called one of the best documentaries ever made. Now, the filmmaker is spotlighting the survivors of such gruesome violence in The Look of Silence where he follows one family still living amongst their son's own executioners.

Metro caught up with Oppenheimer to find out what half a century of silence does to a society.

Is it important to acknowledge this isn't a sequel but a companion film to The Act of Killing?

I think the two films form a single work that's greater than the sum of the parts — or at least I hope so ... the films address two fundamentally complementary aspects of — not necessarily what happened in 1965 because these films are not historical documentaries — but of the impunity today.



The Look of Silence follows a family of genocide survivors living amidst their son's executioners. HANDOUT

You've described making a film about survivors of genocide like walking into a minefield of clichés. How so?

I feel that most of the way that survivors are often used and, in a sense, abused by cinema is to reassure viewers that we're good and have little to do with the perpetrators. By holding up saintly survivors in contrast with villainous perpetrators, we are reassured that somehow we have nothing to do with the perpetrators (and) I was very conscious that that does an injustice to the complexity of the survivors' experience.

Can Western audiences relate to such oppressive societies?

I would caution anybody

from thinking this is a window to some far-off, non-Western world that you knew little about ahead of time. I think these films have been impactful outside Indonesia (because) they hopefully work as mirrors in which we see ourselves and in which we see impunity in our own societies.

How have these two films affected your approach to future projects?

I can't safely return to Indonesia. I could probably get in again but I don't think I'd get out alive. But the two films really made me the filmmaker I am today. They helped me overcome that most crippling of fears, which is the fear of looking.



COMEDY What We Did On Our Holiday

Directors: Andy Hamilton,
Guy Jenkin
Starring: Rosamund Pike,
David Tennant

Doug and Abi are in the midst of a difficult divorce, and have asked the kids to keep it a secret from their extended family.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **74%** **Audience:** **74%**



DRAMA Mr. Holmes

Director: Bill Condon
Starring: Ian McKellen,
Laura Linney

Mr. Holmes is a new twist on the world's most famous detective. In 1947, an aging Sherlock Holmes revisits the circumstances of the unsolved case that forced him into retirement, and searches for answers to the mysteries of life and love — before it's too late.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **87%** **Audience:** **76%**

DOCUMENTARY The Look of Silence

Director: Joshua
Oppenheimer

A family of survivors of the Indonesian genocide discovers the identity of the men who murdered him. The killers live just down the road.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **96%** **Audience:** **94%**

DRAMA Me and Earl and the Dying Girl

Director: Alfonso
Gomez-Rejon
Starring: Thomas Mann,
Olivia Cooke

This Sundance winner is the story of Greg Gaines, an awkward high school senior whose mom forces him to spend time with a girl in his class who was just diagnosed with cancer.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **80%** **Audience:** **90%**

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Like Picasso, like Madonna

CONCERT TOUR

Pop icon aims to impress with avant-garde, inspiring art

Madonna thinks artists deep into their careers should stop if they don't have anything more to say. But at 56, the singer says she still has things to talk about, and in short, she feels like Pablo Picasso.

"I like to compare myself to other kinds of artists like Picasso. He kept painting and painting until the day he died. Why? Because I guess he felt inspired to do so," she said. "Life inspired him, so he had to keep expressing himself, and that's how I feel."

Madonna released her self-titled debut album in 1983, and her latest album, *Rebel Heart*, earlier this year. She said the key to sticking around is her continual desire to inspire others.

"I don't think there's a time, a date, an expiration date for being creative," she



Madonna will launch her *Rebel Heart* Tour this fall, which includes more than 60 shows across North America, Europe, Australia and Asia. AP/FILE PHOTO

said. "I think you go until you don't have any more to say."

The pop icon will launch her *Rebel Heart* Tour on Sept. 9 in Montreal. The tour in-

cludes more than 60 shows across North America, Europe, Australia and Asia.

"The theme I really truly explore in this show more

than anything is love and romance," she said in a phone interview from her home in New York City last week. "I want people to walk out like

they're feeling inspired and like they've seen something they've never seen before (and) felt something they've never felt before."

Comedian Amy Schumer, whose new movie *Trainwreck* opened impressively at No. 2 with \$30.2 million last weekend, will open for three Madonna shows in New York.

Madonna says picking the set list for her upcoming tour has been hard, mainly because she wants to sing her newest songs but also satisfy her longtime, die-hard fans.

"I realize I have 32 years of other songs, so I have to pick and choose. I sit there for weeks and weeks and weeks trying to figure out which of

I don't think there's a time, a date, an expiration date for being creative. I think you go until you don't have any more to say.

Madonna

"She's a role model for women, and I am too, and I think it's a good match," said Madonna, who added that the idea to bring Schumer on board came from the singer's management team.

"I love her and ... I just thought, 'That's interesting.' (I'll) try something new and different rather than the usual run-of-the-mill — have a band, have a DJ. It's definitely a new thing. I hope it works — fingers crossed."

my old catalogue I want to do," she said.

"It's a puzzle that we have to put together 'cause thematically the songs — the old and the new — they have to go together; sonically they have to go together."

She's even picky about the costumes onstage. "What people wear, from their footwear to the buttons on their jacket, is all very important to me," she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Omi skyrockets to top of Billboard

CHART-TOPPER

Artist calls success of hit Cheerleader 'monumental'

Jamaican singer Omi may seem like an overnight success, but his chart-topping summer hit, *Cheerleader*, has been years in the making.

He started working on the reggae-pop song seven years ago. He released the track in 2012 under the Jamaican label, Oufah, but a 2014 remix of the song by German DJ Felix Jaehn helped give the tune new flavour — and new life.

The upbeat ode to a supportive girlfriend is spending its second week at No. 1 on Billboard's Hot 100 chart.

"It wasn't supposed to be a song," Omi said in an interview Tuesday. "It was supposed to be like an interlude on the album."

Cheerleader has sold 1.4 mil-

lion tracks and has 108.9 million on-demand streams, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

"Monumental is the word I can think of right now," he said. "For an artist who is from a little island in the Caribbean, it means a lot. It's a very proud moment."

The 28-year-old, born Omar Samuel Pasley, is adjusting to his newfound fame in the U.S., recently holding up airport security lines as TSA agents clamoured to take photos with him.

"Fan reactions are crazy sometimes. You know, like, 'Omi, I love you! Omi, my lover!'" he mused.

Not to be derailed, he's staying focused on his next single, due out in August, and first album, slated for the fall on Columbia Records.

"Fame is a distraction sometimes. You know, it's a distraction if you let it. So it's very important to stay focused, stay very connected to your roots," he said.

The self-proclaimed "country

boy" from the rural Jamaican parish of Clarendon credits his small-town upbringing for keeping him grounded as his career skyrockets.

"We've seen many heroes from Jamaica, you know, and to be put in that class or to be looked upon on that level is overwhelming," he said. "It's pretty big shoes to fill, you know. I'm a size eight, but I'll try my best." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ BACKGROUND

The power of the remix

Initially starting out as just two verses and a chorus, Omi's *Cheerleader* was given a bit of a makeover by 20-year-old DJ Felix Jaehn through imbuing acoustic gestures — including conga, piano and trumpet — to embellish the original song's simplistic feel.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Omi's upbeat, chart-topping ode to a supportive girlfriend recently rallied to No. 1 on Billboard's Hot 100 chart following huge success abroad. AP/HANDOUT

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Breakthrough rapper dawns new dance craze

ROLE MODEL

Rapper Silento stirs YouTube frenzy with hit new single

Silento, the 17-year-old rapper who's having a pop culture moment with the dance craze to his debut song, says he wants to be a role model to the young kids who have posted videos dancing to his tune.

His Watch Me (Whip/Nae Nae) has continued to rise on the charts and gain millions of views on YouTube, becoming popular among children who have imitated the dances he references in the song, including Nae Nae and the Stanky Legg.

"I always wanted to be a role model," said Silento, born Ricky Hawke, in a recent interview. "I always (wanted) to be the one everybody look at and copy off of."

Silento's song has sold 892,168 tracks and boasts 150 million on-demand streams, according to Nielsen SoundScan. It has peaked at No. 3 on Billboard's Hot 100 songs chart and No. 2 on the R&B/Hip-Hop songs and Rap songs charts, respectively.



I always wanted to be a role model

Up-and-coming artist Silento

Fans — old and young — have posted videos dancing to the popular song. NBA player Stephen Curry and his wife posted a video last week of their daughter, Riley, dancing to the song as she celebrated her third birthday.

"I was just like, 'Wow! Wow!' That's all you can say," Silento said of the song's success. "I just be smiling. It looks like me when I was little. I used to do the same thing."

The performer, a senior in high school in Atlanta, said he came up with the idea for Watch Me at school. After re-

cording the song, he uploaded it to SoundCloud in January and posted videos on Instagram of people dancing to the track. Capitol Music Group caught wind of the rising hit.

"They came like that second week. I got an email saying, 'I've seen your song last week and I see it this week and it exploded,'" recalled Silento, who signed with the record label. "I was like, 'Yeah, that's that message I was looking for.'"

He said that instead of releasing an EP or album, "first we're going to push out more singles," adding his next single is "going to be a record for the ladies."

Silento, who grew up admiring Usher, Chris Brown, Mariah Carey, Ciara and Mary J. Blige, said his sound is a mix of rapping and singing.

"I might throw another dance song in there. I got a couple up my sleeve, but right now I'm not trying to keep people too focused on me as a dancer, I'm trying to show them myself as an artist," he said.

And what does his stage name mean?

"I used to always tell people what I wanted to do and how I wanted to do it, so it's less talk and more action."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



17-year-old Silento's new song, Watch Me (Whip/Nae Nae) boasts 150 million on-demand streams. The track has also peaked at No. 3 on Billboard's Hot 100 songs chart. AP/FILE PHOTO

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BOOK NOTES

James Franco co-writes Lana Del Rey story

Actor, author and jack-of-all-trades James Franco has co-written a book about singer Lana Del Rey that will be released in March 2016.

Franco wrote Flip-Side: Real and Imaginary Conversations With Lana Del Rey along with David Shields.

He previously directed a film adaptation of Shields' book I Think You're Totally Wrong: A Quarrel, which was co-written with Caleb Powell.

Flip-Side, which Penguin Random House is to publish on March 15, builds on a piece Franco wrote about Lana Del Rey, his muse and friend, in V Magazine.

Little is known about the book for now, al-

though details from the publisher indicate it will be a 100-page paperback.

AFP



Singer-songwriter Tori Kelly's new album debuted at No. 2 on the Billboard 200 albums chart last month. AP/FILE PHOTO

NEW ARTIST

Rising pop star's buzz growing

While music awards shows have dwindled in ratings throughout the years, for Tori Kelly, they have been a gold mine.

Thanks to her huge voice, the singer with diva hair marked a breakthrough following captivating performances at this year's Billboard Music Awards and last month's BET Awards. Kelly's acoustic

performance at the Billboard Awards in May even caught the attention of BET executive Stephen Hill, who was sitting next to Kelly's manager, Scooter Braun.

Hill requested Kelly be a part of the Smokey Robinson tribute for the BET Awards, where she sang a rousing version of Who's Lovin' You and gained new fans.

"This is the debut I was hoping for," said Braun, who also manages Justin Bieber and Ariana Grande. "They are hearing her sing once and they are buying the entire album because they want a lot of her."

Kelly's debut album, Unbreakable Smile, landed at No. 2 on the Billboard 200 albums chart last month.

"I am just throwing myself

out there and people are just into it. It's really cool to be able to do what I love," she said.

Listing Jill Scott, Lauryn Hill and gospel singer Crystal Lewis as inspirations, the 22-year-old spent years getting to this moment: She won America's Most Talented Kids at 11, performed on Star Search and auditioned for American Idol.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

She's Cait: Jenner premieres new show

CELEB REALITY TV

Despite reality trappings, new docuseries has higher purpose

It's the next step in the biggest celebrity story of the year.

It's the long-awaited debut of Caitlyn Jenner's docuseries charting her new life as a transgender woman.

Fittingly, *I Am Cait* (premiering Sunday at 8 p.m. EDT on E!) opens with Jenner, her ample tresses in huge rollers, at home getting hair-and-makeup treatment as she beholds a giant blowup of her bombshell Vanity Fair cover that followed her April interview with Diane Sawyer.

Yes, Jenner's transition from Bruce to Caitlyn has been a highly orchestrated spectacle, with *I Am Cait* the latest phase of the campaign. And, typical of celeb reality shows, there isn't a scene in this first of eight episodes that doesn't seem stage-managed to push the

starry uber-narrative along.

Even so, there is something more substantial going on here. A gratifying measure of authenticity manages to bypass the celebrity trappings.

Jenner's mother and two sisters help. Delivered to Jenner's seaside California compound for their first encounter with her as a woman, they seem refreshingly like regular folks who are genuinely focused on a family member they love and support, never mind all the lights and cameras there to capture every moment.

"It's going to be so difficult for me to think of you as 'she,' and say 'Caitlyn' when I want to speak with you," her mother says. "It's going to take some getting used to, but I want to do what you want."

At the other end of the authenticity scale are stepdaughter Kim Kardashian and her husband, Kanye West. They are seen in a cameo appearance that plays as unintended comic relief, with Kardashian never doffing her floor-length coat (she blames her modesty on her pregnancy, yet it smacks more



I've had some very dark moments in my life. I have been in my house with a gun and said, 'Let's just end it right here.'

Caitlyn Jenner

of, "I don't show my body except for my own projects") and with West explaining that his shoelaces are untied because they're unnecessary since his shoes are really slippers ("the laces are sort of after the fact").

Kardashian takes the time to survey Jenner's closet full of new women's fashions. Then she and West make their hasty exit.

Such interludes undercut the dignity of Jenner's challenges, and make what she is going through arguably less relatable to an audience that needs to relate.

On the other hand, fame claims attention, and the celebrity machine for Caitlyn Jenner, including *I Am Cait*, has been impossible to miss. With Cait, she will have a weekly pulpit and a guaranteed flock to whom she knows how to deliver her

message loud and clear.

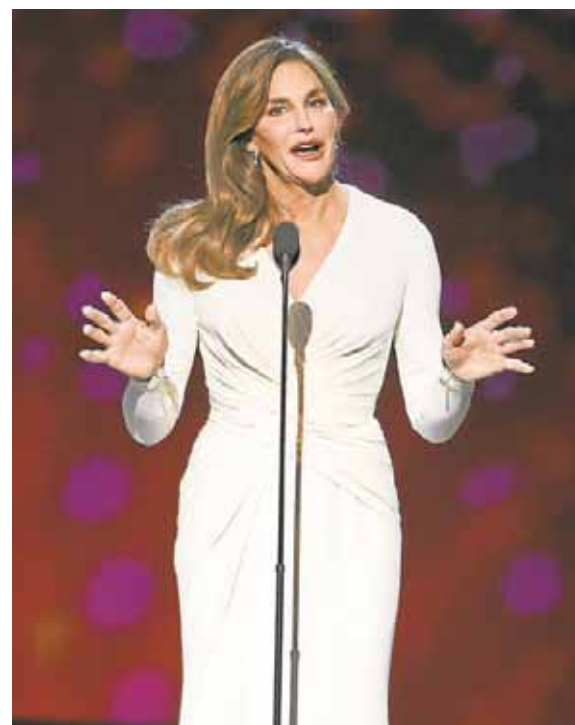
"The tremendous amount of support that I've gotten has been overwhelming, but you also have to realize that it's not this way for everybody," she takes pains to point out.

More than once, she cites the lack of support from family, friends and outsiders experienced by far too many in the trans community, as well as the high murder rate and many suicides. Jenner says she relates:

"I've had some very dark moments in my life. I have been in my house with a gun and said, 'Let's just end it right here.'"

"People are dying over this issue," she says. "I feel a tremendous responsibility here, because I have a voice, and there are so many trans people out there who do not have a voice."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Caitlyn Jenner accepts the Arthur Ashe award for courage at the ESPY Awards in Los Angeles. Jenner's docuseries, *I Am Cait*, premieres Sunday at 8 p.m. EDT on E! AP/HANDOUT



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MILES DAVIS BIO PIC

Don Cheadle's labour of love, Miles Ahead, set to close NY film fest

Miles Ahead, a long-gestating passion project for actor Don Cheadle, is to get its world premiere at the closing night of the New York Film Festival in October.

Marking Cheadle's directorial debut and also starring him as the late jazz trumpeter, the film was financed through a crowd-funding effort and is said to focus on Davis in the late 1970s.

"Holed up in his Manhattan apartment, wracked with pain from a variety of ailments and fiending for the next cheque from his record company, dodging sycophants and industry executives, he is haunted by memories of old glories and humiliations and of his years with his great love Frances Taylor (Emayatzy Corinealdi)," reads a description provided by the film festival. AFP



Don Cheadle. ROBYN BECK/AFP

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Jack Black plays a low-level American diplomat stationed in Islamabad on *The Brink*. HANDOUT

On The Brink of Season 2

COMEDY

Jack Black political satire builds momentum, audience

The Jack Black and Tim Robbins comedy *The Brink*, which takes a satirical look at U.S. foreign affairs, is up for a second season, after Sunday's episode won greater audience favour.

Black plays a low-ranking diplomatic officer stationed in Pakistan's capital, Islamabad; Robbins the U.S. Embassy network's ultimate authority as the incumbent secretary of state.

They're joined by Pablo Schreiber of *Orange Is the New Black*, a pilot in the U.S. Navy who has a nifty sideline as his aircraft carrier's drug dealer in residence.

But the unscrupulous trio find that they're in the same

boat, so to speak, when the threat of nuclear war looms and their fates become entangled whether they like it or not.

With six episodes out in the wild, the HBO series' audience seems to be stabilizing at around 1 million U.S. viewers.

Backed by super-producer Jerry Weintraub, who passed away on July 6, the series was created by Roberto Benabib, a writer and executive producer on *Weeds*, alongside his novelist brother Kim.

Early critical response to *The Brink* was lukewarm, but it still has significant star power thanks to canny casting, and a slow start in setting the scene has given way to a

tighter middle for Season 1.

In terms of network programming, it fills the power vacuum left by Emmy winner *Veep*, created by political satirist Armando Iannucci — though that too has a new season ordered by HBO — and for its 'live' U.S. audience, *The Brink* airs directly after the second season episodes of wildly popular series *True Detective*.

Just like *True Detective*, fans of *The Brink* can expect a shakeup to the second season's wider setting after the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad sorts itself out, though without the wholesale changes to its cast roster that the former is now known for. AFP

+ MORE RECENT RENEWALS

Turn and other series return

Other U.S. TV series also benefiting from recent renewals include ABC Family's sci-fi crime drama *Stitchers*, with Emma Ishta making

her breakthrough in the lead role, SundanceTV's Peabody Award-winning *Rectify*, and AMC's recreation of revolutionary war subterfuge in *Turn*. AFP

4 MOVIE STARS WE'D LIKE TO SEE MAKE A COMEBACK ON TV

The stampede of film stars to TV is no longer just a trend — it's reality. And we've moved on from the Kevin Spaceys to stars in need of a break. For instance, this fall sees Wesley Snipes head to TV for *The Player*, after a long stretch away from film. We think there are plenty of other film actors ripe for a TV resurgence. Here are our picks and where they'd thrive. **LISA WEIDENFELD/METRO IN NEW YORK**



1 Jackie Chan: appearing in a family comedy

Though Chan has *Rush Hour 3* on the horizon, he seems to be past his action star heyday. That's OK, though — that just means it's time for him to focus on his equally great but less honoured talent as a comic actor.

Chan is great at physical comedy and we can easily picture him as a beleaguered father to hipster kids, getting in generational clashes about how easy they have it.



2 Karen Allen: appearing in a tense legal drama

Allen had a stretch in the '80s where she dominated, but lately (except for that return in the most recent *Indiana Jones* movie) she's been less active. Which means it's the perfect time for her to play some kind of high-powered attorney.

We're imagining a *Good Wife* and *How to Get Away with Murder* hybrid. She's brilliant, but morally compromised (you know, like every other TV lawyer). Bonus points if they can talk Harrison Ford into a cameo.



3 Winona Ryder: appearing in a showbiz satire

Ryder was the It Girl of the '90s, but a series of lacklustre roles and that little shoplifting issue, plus the usual "industry doesn't know what to do with women over 35" nonsense have kept her low profile. Why not spoof that?

Sure, half the cast of *Friends* is doing it (*The Comeback* and *Extras*), but we think there's room for a sharp look at the life of a former It Girl, particularly during this golden era for female comics on television. Sure, she's appearing in an upcoming HBO miniseries (*Show Me a Hero*), but we think she's ready for her own show.



4 Jon Lovitz: appearing in a seedy lawyer comedy

Sure, Lovitz was also a TV star, but who can forget his turn in *A League of Their Own*?

Wherever he's been, we'd like him back, along with that particular style of scumbag he portrays so well. Casting would be almost too easy. He could play a seedy lawyer à la *Better Call Saul*, but, you know, more funny, less violent. We're also willing to accept him as a doctor with terrible people skills, in a pinch.

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Tee time in the Bow Valley

ALBERTA

Nature on full display for golfers in Canmore

Brian Kendall

canadiangolftraveller.com



For years Canmore was one of the best kept secrets in the Rocky Mountains: a town with the same spectacular scenery as nearby Banff, but hipper, friendlier and more affordable.

Located just outside the gates of Banff National Park, 104 kilometres west of Calgary, Canmore is an ideal home base for a mountain golf holiday. But also budget time between rounds for hiking, kayaking, rafting and the other summer activities that annually help draw more than a million overnight visitors to the rapidly growing community of 13,000.

Two of Canada's most dramatically scenic golf courses have been carved through the Bow Valley corridor minutes from Canmore's lively downtown.

At Stewart Creek Golf and Country Club, golfers are treated to a thrill ride of elevation changes on a Gary Browning-de-



The ninth hole on Silvertip Golf Course. The course features glacial ponds and forest-lined freeways, as well as cliff-top tee shots. At right, the view from Canmore's Main Street, with the Rocky Mountains in the background. ISTOCK



signed layout set in the shadow of the Three Sisters, an awe-inspiring three-peak massif.

Silvertip Golf Course, on the opposite side of the corridor, is just as thrilling. Glacial ponds and forest-lined fairways define a design by Canmore-based architect Les Furber that

includes several cliff-top tee shots.

And right in town is Canmore Golf and Curling Club. This older, classically designed layout offers many of the same mountain golf experiences found at higher-profile Stewart Creek and Silvertip — mountain vistas, forests of towering fir trees, a meandering glacial river — at about half the cost.

But the biggest draw for golfers is the Banff Springs Golf

Course, just inside the park's gates in the alpine town world-renowned for both its beauty and the iconic Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel.

In the valley below the 764-room Castle in the Mountains, legendary Canadian architect Stanley Thompson built the first course anywhere to cost more than \$1 million. Opened in 1929, the Banff Springs has long been included in virtually every ranking of the game's

leading layouts, and its most celebrated hole, the par-three Devil's Cauldron, numbers among the most photographed in golf.

Visitors often make the mistake of neglecting Canmore in favour of glitzy Banff. But Canmore is equally beguiling in its own unpretentious way. Pubs, coffee shops, boutiques and art galleries line the streets of a town that is said to be home to more Olympic athletes

than any other place in the world.

Towering over the community are the magnificent peaks of the Rundle Mountain Range. The fast-rushing Bow River snakes through Canmore's heart, while a network of wildlife corridors and trails spreads out in every direction.

It's a setting perhaps unsurpassed in the West.



Budget time between rounds for hiking, kayaking, rafting ...

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TRAVEL NOTES COMFY SEATS, HIGHER VIEWS AND ISLAND TREATS

Seat upgrade

Thanks to staggered seating, the new Cozy Suite by Thompson Aero Seating gives everybody in Economy a bit more elbow room, especially if you're saddled with the middle seat. The design offers better aisle access and side headrests for no-nod napping. Airlines can actually fit more passengers in the cabin. Everybody wins.



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Bucket list

The one-of-a-kind-experience people at If Only are offering one truly expensive hot-air balloon ride: over Mount Everest for \$2.6 million per person with famed pilot Chris Dewhirst. The flight itself takes one day, but the expedition may take several weeks in Nepal, while you train and wait for the weather window. Visit IfOnly.com.



Sky high over Mount Everest. CONTRIBUTED

Foodie favourite

The Barbados Food & Wine and Rum Festival is back for its sixth year, running Nov. 19 to 22. Now is the time to plan a weekend in what's known as the culinary capital of the Caribbean — and the birthplace of rum. Bajan and international chefs will ply audiences with delicious demos. Visit FoodWineRum.com. DOUG WALLACE



Four days of flavour in Barbados. CONTRIBUTED

Road blocks and pit stops

REALITY TV

What it's like to be a contestant on The Amazing Race

ON THE MOVE

Loren Christie

I am a super-fan of the Amazing Race, TV's reality show meets frenetic travelogue. Needless to say, when producers of the Amazing Race Canada asked me to run a leg of the race to celebrate the start of Season 3, I was thrilled.

As one half of Team Canada AM along with on-air weather presenter Lyndsay Morrison, I quickly realized how much harder it is to be a contestant than a critical armchair competitor.

After running almost four hours I can say that what you see on TV, although edited, is real. It's what you don't see that makes you more sympathetic towards racers who seemingly underperform.

An inauspicious start

Each team races with a producer and cameraman in tow, whom you must keep within 20 feet of



Loren Christie and Lyndsay Morrison, in the dark grey shirts, represented for Team Canada AM in the Amazing Race Canada media challenge. Activities on a hot Toronto summer day included a little Frisbee in the park. ALL PHOTOS MARK O'NEILL

you at all times. On our 35-degree race day it was a struggle for our crew, lugging 60 pounds of camera equipment, to sprint around Toronto in search of cabs.

Racers are not allowed to carry any handheld devices to aid in directions, so you are reliant on the knowledge of strangers.

The first clue directed us to Stanley Park.

Neither of us had heard of a Stanley Park in Toronto, but thankfully a well-meaning stranger caught up in our excitement had.

Of course we never bothered to verify his directions, which turned out to be wrong.

We ended up being the seventh team out of nine to arrive at the first challenge.



Change of luck

Only one of us could do the Road Block. The only guideline the clue gave was to ask, "Who is more patriotic?"

For no real reason, we chose Lyndsay to represent. The challenge was to sing O Canada in English and French by memory. Bilingual songstress Lyndsay, unlike members of the other teams, hit it out of the park and we were off on our next task. Thank goodness — if it had been me, we would still be there.

Between doing puzzles and knocking solo cups off of sticks with Frisbees, we quickly lost track of where we stood in the race. The fear of being last results in a continuous rush of adrenalin.

Driving to the Hard Rock Cafe in Dundas Square, the Pit Stop for our leg of the race, we saw another team sprinting ahead of us. Lyndsay and I jumped out of our cab, they went right — we went left.

We choose correctly and when host Jon Montgomery announced we were team ... number ... 2, I felt like I had won the lottery.

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Food bank drive continues at Servus Heritage Festival

It started as an information booth at the Servus Heritage Festival in 1984 and has transformed into the single largest food drive the Edmonton Food Bank has each year.

That's why the partnership between the free multi-cultural event and the Edmonton Food Bank is so important, say organizers, who are proud of Edmontonians for stepping up to the plate when it comes to hunger.

"Our goal every year is 50,000 kilograms — that's close to 100,000 pounds," says Edmonton Food Bank spokesperson Tamison Bencz-Knight.

"It helps us restock our shelves in the summer when here's a shortage in the flow of donations coming into the organization so it's a key and instrumental food drive for us. And we take unused food tickets as well, which we get 75 cents per ticket for. It's astounding how fast it adds up for the organization."

In fact, last year's festival brought in 55,445 kilograms of food, plus \$56,541 in

unused food tickets — both numbers Servus Heritage Festival executive director Jack Little thinks will be surpassed this year as it's the 40th anniversary of the popular event.

"We're very proud of this partnership and the way our guests really step up when it comes to bringing in donations," Little says. "This food drive really helps put food on a lot of people's tables — in fact, the 1.5 million kilogram mark will be broken at this year's Festival."

In 1984, people started spontaneously dropping off donations to the Edmonton Food Bank booth — 10,000 cans in fact — so the following year the official food drive was born. By 1987 — the year of the Edmonton Tornado — 175,000 cans were donated, sparking the change to start tracking donations by weight and not by piece.

"And the rest," says Bencz-Knight, "is history."

Don't forget your Food Bank donation when you come to this year's Festival. Cash

40 YEARS GOING

This year marks the 40th anniversary of Edmonton's popular Servus Heritage Festival, with its roots dating back to 1974 when the Alberta Government declared the first Monday in August an annual holiday to celebrate the diverse ethnic heritage of Albertans. The event runs from Aug. 1 to Aug. 3 at Hawrelak Park. For more information please visit heritage-festival.com or follow on Twitter @EdmHeritageFest.

is also appreciated and your leftover food tickets also make a great contribution.



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SENIOR LIFE

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By keenly tuning in to the wants and needs of mature Albertans, local builder Street-Side Developments has revisited bungalow living and designed a collection of homes that is nothing short of triumphant. In fact, the company has called these amazing new homes just that — Triumph Bungalows.

Triumph offers cul-de-sac communities in southwest Edmonton and Summerwood in Sherwood Park.

"We saw enormous success with our single-family bungalows in Langdale — there is only one lot left there," says sales and marketing manager Barb Lee.



CONTRIBUTED

The same popular single-family designs are available on hand-picked lots in neighbouring Ambleside and in Summerwood in Sherwood Park.

Each Triumph project is architecturally themed with a distinct look and feel to co-ordinate with the surrounding neighbourhood, but the interior can be customized according to your sensibilities.

"Finishes like granite in the kitchens, wrought iron railings, hardwoods and high ceilings are standard, but the colour selections are up to each owner's preferences," Lee says.

If nothing else, these spectacular show homes are worth a visit just to see how far bungalows have come. Luxurious master suites and spacious great rooms anchored by large kitchen islands are hallmarks of the Triumph line. Thoughtful basement development options create functional extra space for family, guests and lifestyle activities.

What's the next step for Triumph? A collection of maintenance-free bungalow town-homes in convenient South Ambleside.

"The single-family bungalows are gorgeous and they've proven incredibly livable,"

Lee says. "However, we've learned that many of our bungalow clients are looking for a low-maintenance lifestyle."

Triumph Ambleside still offers spacious plans, with both traditional and open-concept living options. You certainly won't be compromising on your master suite (all of them are top notch) and there is additional flexible space available with Triumph's basement development options.

"They're true to the high standards we've set with our single-family Triumph Bungalows. The difference here is that all the landscaping, exterior maintenance, snow shovelling, that will all be taken care of for you," says Lee, which will allow you to relax on your generous, sociable rear deck.

Triumph Bungalows are truly unmatched in style and quality. Whether you enjoy tending to your garden or prefer to wake up to a driveway that has already been shovelled, there is a Triumph collection for you.

To learn more about these homes, visit TriumphBungalows.com.



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SUITING THE NEEDS OF RESIDENTS

Christenson Developments offers a wide range of housing options, from condo and semi-detached bungalow developments to award-winning condominium-style apartment homes in a comprehensive aging in place setting throughout Edmonton and northern and central Alberta.

Since the company was founded by Lloyd Christenson in the 1970s, current owner Greg Christenson and his team have focused on creating sustainable, walkable, mixed-use “urban villages,” able to accommodate members of the village as needs change, including care and support services like meals and housekeeping.

Retirement communities in Edmonton include Devonshire Village (in Terwillegar Gardens), Southwoods Village (a new, five-building, 264-unit retirement community integrated into the active living adult townhome community), Westmount Village (a 14-storey retirement community in Westmount, just off Groat Road), and Glastonbury Village (a West Edmonton development in the new community of Parkland and near the Anthony Henday). Other developments include the Citadel Village in St. Albert and Bedford Village at Centre in the Park in Sherwood Park.

“Our retirement communities offer lifestyle choices and amenities to suit the needs and wants of our residents,” says Steve Curtis of Christenson Developments. “These encourage staying active, both physically and socially.”

Christenson Developments offers unique condo-style rental apartments, as well as a



CONTRIBUTED

popular life lease program, which provides residents with monthly cost certainty through a loan to the community in exchange for a reduction or elimination of rent. The resident pays operating fees (like a condo fee) and is returned the loan value (minus six per cent) when the lease expires.

“It’s worry-free living — we are responsible for all the maintenance,” Curtis says. “And the homes are more like modern condos, with large kitchens, vinyl plank flooring, oversized showers and balconies.”

All retirement living units (from studio and one-bedroom, to one-bedroom plus den

and two-bedroom plans) are designed to accommodate residents as needs change, using mobility-modified door handles, five-foot turning radiuses in rooms, grab bars and other features for aging in place.

For more, visit cdlhomes.com, or visit one of its many communities around Alberta.

A central location to age in place

Christenson Communities has redefined what it means to age in place.

Tailored to fit various lifestyle options for the city’s senior community, Christenson Communities offers independent living, supportive living and assisted living in several developments in and around Edmonton. Offering meal options, housekeeping, bus service and home care, plus flexible senior rental and life lease payment choices, Christenson can tailor a program to fit any senior’s lifestyle needs.

While Christenson Developments has active adult semi-detached or bungalow condominiums (studio, one bedroom, one bedroom plus den, two bedroom) with carpet and hardwood finishes, retirement communities incorporate mobility-friendly handles, flooring and more.

The Village at Westmount is part of the ongoing transformation of the Westmount Shopping Centre and revitalization of the



CONTRIBUTED

mature neighbourhoods of Westmount (Woodcroft, Dovercourt and Sherbrooke).

Steve Curtis of CDL Homes says the amenities of an established neighbourhood (nearby health clinic, restaurants, library, shopping mall, pharmacy, etc.) are just one draw for the company’s new retirement community there, as is the steel and concrete, 14-floor, highrise design, complete with underground parking.

“It’s such a central location, near Groat Road, with easy walking or transit,” Curtis says. “We’ve already pre-sold over 20 units, with construction starting in September 2015.”

Featured in the innovative new retirement community will be spacious one-bedroom with den and two-bedroom units, ranging from 648 square feet to 830 square feet. Upper floors will offer great views and two-bedroom and two-bedroom plus den units of up to 1,135 square feet. All units have big windows, full kitchens, balconies, ensuite laundry and air conditioning.

The main and lower floors feature a commercial kitchen and dining room for independent living residents, plus family party room, exercise room, crafts room, hairdresser and more. Residents will have the

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To make living at a Christenson retirement community as easy and affordable as possible, the company offers a life lease — a way for residents to reduce their monthly net rent in a luxury retirement community. At any time in the first three months of a lease, a resident can loan, at zero interest, any amount from 35 to 100 per cent of their suite’s value.

Benefits of a life lease include reduced or eliminated rental costs and cost certainty each month, plus condo-style living without the responsibility of home ownership. As well, Steve Curtis of CDL Homes says a life lease gives a resident freedom to relocate without the difficulty of having to sell a property.

choice of rental tenure or life lease, which reduces the monthly payment by making a zero interest secured loan.

The second and third floors of Village at Westmount will be designated assisted living, with on-site trained LPN and HCAs offering round-the-clock care.

An information sales centre is located within the Westmount Shopping Centre.



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Reaching a new golden high

PAN AM 2015

Canada breaks its previous record of 64 gold medals

Damian Warner set a Canadian record in the decathlon on Thursday, while Canada set a national record for gold medals won at the Pan American Games.

The 25-year-old Warner from London, Ont., won the decathlon on the 13th day of competition, in the process breaking Michael Smith's 19-year-old Canadian record.

Warner scored 8,659 points. Smith's mark was 8,626.

He needed to run four minutes 29 seconds in the decathlon's final event, the 1,500 metres, to break the record, and ran 4:24.73.

Warner took a healthy lead into the 1,500 after recording personal bests in the 100 metres, long jump and discus in the two-day event.

Earlier, water-skiier Whitney McClintock took first place in the women's slalom event — her second top finish of these Games — to give Canada 65

gold medals in total up to that point. The previous record of 64 was set in Winnipeg in 1999.

"This is great. I'm a happy girl," McClintock said. "I've got the two (medals) I came for already. The rest are a bonus."

McClintock, who won gold Wednesday in the overall competition, finished first in the six-skier slalom field to kick off a six-medal Thursday for Canadian water-skiers. Ryan Dodd capped the effort with a gold medal in the men's jump competition on a warm, sunny afternoon on the waterfront.

McClintock, from Cambridge, Ont., later added silver medals in the tricks and jump finals and her brother Jason won silver in the men's slalom.

"Unfortunately I wasn't able to get as warm as I needed to and I just kind of stuck," Jason McClintock said.

In the men's tricks, Jaret Llewellyn of Innisfail, Alta., won silver with 10,550 points. American Adam Pickos won gold with 11,110.

Later in the day, Canada earned the gold medal in the team equestrian competition.

The Canadians finished the two-round competition with seven faults, one less than Argentina. The U.S.



Damian Warner celebrates with fans after winning the decathlon on Thursday in Toronto. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ TEAM SPORTS

Canada used a balanced attack to defeat Mexico 96-76 and move within one win of a first ever medal in Pan American Games men's basketball.

Canada (3-0) went into the game having already secured a semifinal berth and knowing it had won Pool B barring a total collapse against the Mexicans (1-2). Argentina's earlier 80-

70 win over the Dominican Republic left both teams at 1-2 and unable to catch Canada in the pool.

Meanwhile, Canada's men's field hockey team earned a spot at the 2016 Olympics with a 5-4 win over Brazil in Thursday's semifinal.

Canada will now play Argentina in Saturday's gold-medal game.

44

At the age of 44, Llewellyn won his 10th career Pan Am Games medal. He turns 45 next week.

Jaret Llewellyn

THE CANADIAN PRESS

earned the bronze with 12 faults.

The Canadian team consisted of Tiffany Foster of North Vancouver, B.C., 2008 Olympic champion Eric Lamaze of Schomberg, Ont., Yann Candele of Caledon, Ont., and Ian Millar of Perth, Ont., who's making his 10th consecutive Pan Am appearance.

Also, the Canadian men's sabre team won a fencing silver medal after dropping a 45-37 decision to the United States in the final.

Shaul Gordon from Richmond, B.C., Toronto's Mark Peros and Montreal's Joseph Polossifikas

made up the Canadian squad, which edged Venezuela to reach the gold-medal match.

Lanni Marchant, the Canadian record-holder in the marathon, raced to a bronze medal in the women's 10,000 metres, crossing in 32 minutes 46.03 seconds.

Andre De Grasse, meanwhile, finished third in his 200 semi-final — his fifth run of the Pan Am Games. The 20-year-old from Markham, Ont., crossed in 20.12 seconds, a night after he won the 100-metre title.

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Josh Donaldson homered against his former team on Thursday in Oakland.

JASON O. WATSON/GETTY IMAGES

MLB

Jays bats keep on bashing

The highest-scoring offence in the majors is heating up at the right time.

Russell Martin homered, doubled and drove in three runs, Josh Donaldson went deep against his former team and the Toronto Blue Jays powered past the Oakland Athletics 5-2 on Thursday.

"Our one through nine is the best in baseball," Donaldson said. "I think we continue to go out there on a night in, night out basis and continue to show that."

The Blue Jays have scored 508 runs, by far the best in the majors. The next closest team, the New York Yankees, has scored 434.

Toronto continued its pop at the plate to give knuckleballer R.A. Dickey (4-10) all the support he needed. Dickey allowed two runs and five hits in 8-1/3 innings in place of ill starter Drew Hutchison, who is scheduled to take the mound in Friday's series opener at Seattle instead. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

66

It felt like it just hit me at once. It's going to take some time to sink some stuff in.

Scott Kazmir who was traded from Oakland to the Houston Astros before Thursday's game.



GETTY IMAGES

Lou goes Blue and White

NHL

Leafs hire longtime Devils boss as new GM

Brendan Shanahan's new-school Toronto Maple Leafs front office built on his philosophy of differing viewpoints has a new voice, and this one comes with some 30 years of NHL experience.

Shanahan, who's a year into his duties as team president, believes new general manager Lou Lamoriello "will fit in very, very well and be an incredible boost" to what the Leafs are trying to accomplish. Shanahan went looking for experience to join Kyle Dubas, Mark Hunter and Brandon Pridham in management, and no one has more than Lamoriello.

"If I could map out or draw out a description of the kind of person that we wanted, it would be Lou," Shanahan told a news conference Thursday. "I've always thought that there are certain advantages to hiring people on their way up that are looking to prove themselves and have that sort of hunger and energy to make a name for themselves. But I do think that we were lacking in some experience."

In charge of the New Jersey Devils since 1987, the 72-year-old Lamoriello was the longest-serving GM in NHL history. Along the way, his teams won the Stanley Cup three times, a pedigree he brings to the Leafs, who are trying to build a championship contender.

Lamoriello becomes the old-school GM working under the Hall of Fame player and over-seeing assistants Hunter, Dubas



Brendan Shanahan and Lou Lamoriello speak to reporters in Toronto on Thursday. GALIT RODAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

and Pridham, also NHL management rookies. He'll also work with coach Mike Babcock, who's signed for eight years and \$50 million US and has committed to a long-range plan for success.

"Brendan's hired some very good people kind of a little bit on an entry level, at the levels they are coming into the league," said Pittsburgh Penguins GM Jim Rutherford, who made a similar transition last year leaving the Carolina Hurricanes. "To add an experienced guy like Lou, I think it was very smart on the Leafs' part, and it'll be a good fit."

Lamoriello's comfortable fit for the past 28 years was gripping the reins of the Devils and asserting just about total control. New Jersey was his team until Ray Shero took over as GM in May, leaving Lamoriello as team president.

"I think this benefits everyone," Shero said. "He's a pretty amazing person, and he's in the Hall of Fame for a reason. They're going to find that out."

Although Lamoriello said he was told he'd have autonomy as GM, Shanahan made it clear in conversations "the kind of environment and organiza-

1987

Lamoriello has a relationship with the Leafs' president dating to 1987, when he drafted Shanahan.

tion" of collaboration he was building. Lamoriello is OK with Shanahan not wearing a tie to work every day and might have to let Hunter keep his facial hair, and he's fine with sharing decision-making responsibilities.

"No one makes any decision without consulting the people that are around them and their supporting staff," Lamoriello said. "Everybody works together. They don't work for each other. Everybody will be part of every process."

The process of remaking the Leafs is already under way.

Since taking over, Shanahan

+ GROOMING KYLE

Signed to a three-year deal, Lamoriello will be almost 76 when it expires. One of his duties will be to mentor the 28-year-old Kyle Dubas, who Lamoriello believes will grow into an NHL GM.

fired several assistant coaches, executives and scouts, Randy Carlyle and Dave Nonis and presided over the trade of Phil Kessel to the Penguins. Yet there are still plenty of big decisions to make, as Kessel is unlikely to be the only core player sent packing.

Shanahan is still setting the vision, but now it's Lamoriello's job to execute it. THE CANADIAN PRESS

I think having Lou in the organization is an opportunity for him to mentor us all.

Brendan Shanahan

'HUMAN RIGHTS MEDAL'

Tewksbury donates gold to museum

Swimming legend Mark Tewksbury says it's only fitting that he present his gold medal from the 1992 Olympic Games to the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg.

Tewksbury says he couldn't have won the 100-metre backstroke in Barcelona if he hadn't had the support of people who knew he was gay.

Tewksbury, who came out publicly in 1998, says he felt unsafe doing so before then.

His medal will be part of a



Mark Tewksbury
THE CANADIAN PRESS

new exhibition at the human rights museum that explores the power of sport to inspire positive change.

"I've always said for me that medal is a human rights medal," Tewksbury said Thursday. "It was done because someone created a space for me to be me."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Bayern close in on Vidal

Bayern Munich says it's close to signing Chile midfielder Arturo Vidal from Italian champion Juventus. Chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge said during a trip to China on Thursday that



Bayern has agreed terms with both Juventus and Vidal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL

Brady deal met with silence: Union

The players' union proposed a settlement on Tom Brady's four-game suspension last week that was "met with silence" by the NFL, a person familiar with the proposal told The Associated Press.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity Thursday because the NFL Players Association's offer was confidential. There is no timetable on when commissioner Roger Goodell will rule on the New England quarterback's appeal.



Tom Brady
GETTY IMAGES

Media reports indicated the union's proposal called for Brady paying a large fine, but no suspension. The Patriots paid a record \$1 million fine and

were stripped of two draft picks, including a No. 1 selection. Brady was suspended for his role in using underinflated balls in the Pats' AFC title win over the Colts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taylor, Grillo can count themselves lucky to play

CANADIAN OPEN

Mishaps nearly keep top golfers out of tournament

Vaughn Taylor felt fortunate to survive a boating accident last year. Emiliano Grillo felt fortunate to get into Canada in time to play the Canadian Open.

On Thursday, they made the most of morning tee times to claim spots at the top of the leaderboard. Grillo shot an 8-under 64 to take the RBC Canadian Open lead, while Taylor shot a 7-under 65 to tie Brian Harman for second after the first round.

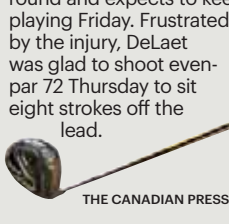
Taylor is almost a year removed from his fishing boat capsizing on Lake Thurmond between South Carolina and Georgia. The 49-year-old who birdied eight holes at Glen Abbey Golf Club in the first round gained some perspective on his sport and life from the August 2014 accident.



Bubba Watson shoots from the 16th-hole fairway at the first round of the Canadian Open on Thursday in Oakville, Ont. The former Masters winner Watson, whose wife is from Pickering, Ont., opened with a 68. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ TOUGH DELAET

Graham DeLaet of Weyburn, Sask., injured his left thumb during the first round but still finished his round and expects to keep playing Friday. Frustrated by the injury, DeLaet was glad to shoot even-par 72 Thursday to sit eight strokes off the lead.



THE CANADIAN PRESS

"It still does," Taylor said. "I kind of remind myself of it to say, 'Hey, let's not take this day for granted and make the most of it.'"

Taylor panicked in the water before swimming to safety.

Grillo didn't panic earlier this week when it looked like he wouldn't be able to cross the border from the United States.

Grillo qualified for the RBC

Canadian Open by finishing in the top 10 at the Barbasol Championship in Alabama, which he only did by picking up back-to-back birdies. After driving to Atlanta and flying to Buffalo, the 22-year-old Argentine didn't have time to wait for the necessary work visa to get into Canada.

After he waited, border officials told Grillo just to pay for the visa and go. He followed up that "lucky" break with a bogey-free round to grab the lead.

"I played better on the back nine, which is harder, and the

greens were drying out," Grillo said. "I kept hitting some solid shots until the end of the round, and I made some good putts on the back nine."

David Hearn and Adam Svensson tied for the best start by a Canadian player at 3-under 69. While a left thumb injury hampered Graham DeLaet during his even-par round, Hearn and Svensson are very much in contention.

"I played a solid round of golf, and that's what I needed to do," Hearn said. "If I can hit a few more greens tomorrow, I like my chances."

Hitting the green might not be a problem, but getting the ball to stop could turn into one. Golfers reported Glen Abbey playing firm and fast, and with wind those are conditions conducive for shooting well under par.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Vaughn Taylor Emiliano Grillo
GETTY IMAGES GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Blatter's FIFA career winds down

Sepp Blatter left the security of Switzerland for the first time in two months on Thursday, arriving for the 2018 World Cup qualifying draw, with Russia saying that communication with FIFA has been disrupted by the corruption crisis.

Blatter will no longer be FIFA president by the time of the 2018 World Cup in Russia, with the 79-year-old Swiss due to leave office in seven months after almost 18 years in power.

The draw for World Cup qualifying is on Saturday as Russia prepares for its first major football event in three years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Panama accuses ref of favouring Mexico

The Panamanian Football Federation has demanded the removal of CONCACAF's referee selection panel after describing the officiating in the Gold Cup semifinal loss to Mexico as "insulting and embarrassing."

The PFF, in a statement on Thursday, also accused the match officials of favouring Mexico "in a vulgar and shameless way."

In the bad-tempered semi in Atlanta on Wednesday, Panama forward Luis Tejada was red-carded in the 24th minute, but the team led 1-0 until stoppage time when Roman Torres was penalized for a hand-ball. Mexico converted that penalty, and another in extra time to win 2-1.

After the match, the Panamanian players posed for a photo under a banner calling CONCACAF corrupt thieves. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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- 1 oz crumbled goat cheese
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 Tbsp lemon juice
- Salt and pepper

Directions

1. On a serving plate, add watermelon and cucumber. Garnish with onions, mint, cashews and goat cheese.

2. In a bowl, mix oil, juice and salt and pepper. Pour over salad and toss gently.

Nutrition per serving

- Calories 180
- Protein 3 g
- Carbohydrates 18 g
- Fibre 2 g
- Total fat 12 g
- Saturated fat 3 g
- Cholesterol 5 mg
- Sodium 85 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

Watermelon is at its best this time of year. With a sweet, natural flavour, it's like nature's candy! To pick the best tasting melon, the watermelon should feel heavy for its size. Look for the yellow creamy spot on one end, which means it's ripe.

Serves 4

Ready in

Prep time: 15 minutes

Ingredients

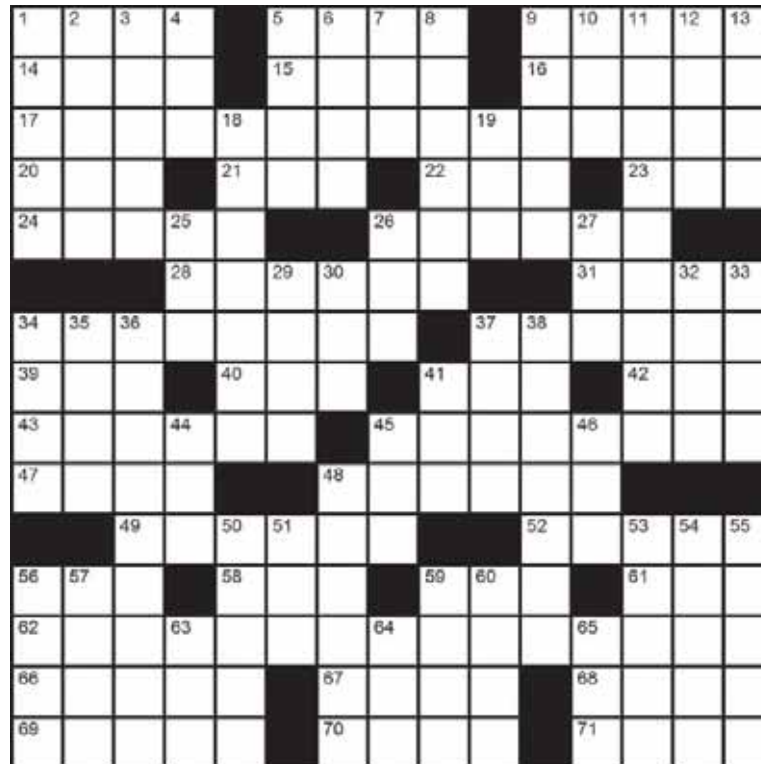
- 4 cups diced watermelon
- 1 cup thinly sliced baby cucumber, cut into half moons
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced red onions
- 1/4 cup chopped mint or basil
- 3 Tbsp toasted chopped cashews

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Outperform
5. Serving-of-cereal holder
9. Essential
14. "Barbie Girl" band
15. Merle Haggard's "___ from Muskogee"
16. Spookily strange
17. Vancouver Island: Flowery attraction in Brentwood Bay, a National Historic Site of Canada: 2 wds.
20. Breathed-in stuff
21. Miley Cyrus song: "Party in the ___"
22. '___' in Alberta
23. Richard Burton's wife, twice ...her initials-sharers
24. Fights
26. Greece's capital
28. Edmonton CFL player
31. Vintage muscle cars
34. Rock star's date unsurprisingly: 2 wds.
37. Quantity
39. Angelina Jolie title role
40. Irish actor Stephen
41. Monk's title
42. ___ periculo (At my own risk, in Latin)
43. Music storage container: 2 letters + wd.
45. Jake Gyllenhaal's new boxer movie
47. Slangy sure
48. Hinder
49. Delicate
52. "No way."



56. Teeth doc's org.
58. Rocky hill
59. Stockholm's country [abbr.]
61. Yoko's surname
62. 1966 hit for partially-Canadian band The Lovin' Spoonful: 4 wds.
66. Manner of

- speaking
67. Have supper
68. There's none in a power failure, for short
69. Accomplishments
70. Simple
71. Weight allowance

DOWN

1. Rum cakes
2. Rig out
3. Kama ___ (Record label the band at #62-Across was on)
4. Tic-Toe link
5. Feathery accessories

6. Pod vegetable
7. Stand-up's asset
8. Smoothly, in music terminology
9. Poetry
10. Roadside mil. hazard
11. Nature's stool in the forest: 2 wds.
12. "It ___ Me Babe"

- by The Turtles
13. Fewer
18. Fancily uniformed cavalymen of 15th-century Hungary
19. Ooh's pal
25. ___ room (Base-ment)
26. Comic actress Ms. Poehler
27. Stop-_-
29. Human hinge
30. Apple variety, ___ Red
32. Vitamins brand, ___ Day
33. Pack away
34. 'A' in CIA [abbr.]
35. Amusement park feature
36. Nut variety
37. Sort of lily
38. Daytime theatrical performance
41. Sainte-___ (Quebec City sector)
44. "Bingo!"
45. Pen
46. "___ Haw"
48. Footstep
50. 12 ___ or Less (Express check-out sign)
51. ___easter
53. "There you have it!"
54. Enroll
55. Rolls-___ (Posh car)
56. "Like, that'll ever happen.": 2 wds.
57. Guy
59. RR depots
60. Curds and ___
63. Clever comment
64. Ms. Vardalos
65. This: French

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
What are your limits? How far can you push yourself? These are the sort of questions you will be asking today and over the weekend. The answers depend entirely on you. Nothing is beyond you if you want it enough.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Resist the urge to criticize today, especially on the domestic front. It would be nice if everyone were as laidback as you but they're not, so make allowances.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You may be free to come and go but you are reluctant to head off into the unknown. Your horizons have been limited for too long. Freedom means nothing unless you have courage.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Take care that, in your attempts to impress someone new, you don't spend more than you can afford. You need to get both your emotional and material priorities right.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
As your confidence returns so does your tendency to take risks and that could be dangerous. Your head may be in the clouds but keep your feet on the ground.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will want to be by yourself over the next few days. Others may find that hard to accept but you must not allow them to persuade you to go places and do things that you would rather avoid.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will go all out for glory today. There's a good chance you'll upset those who prefer the status quo. You are under no obligation to play down your ambitions just to please them.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Now that the sun is moving through the career area of your chart you will aim higher than before. You will face a lot of challenges but you will never doubt that you have what it takes.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
The sun in Leo will encourage you to think in new ways. It won't be long until you realize what you've been missing over the years. A slight shift in awareness will lead to major changes in your philosophy of life.

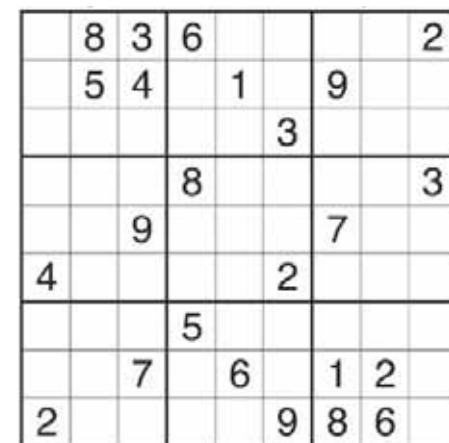
Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The time has come to confront your demons. Don't be afraid to probe into areas of your mind that you would normally avoid. Don't be afraid to question your real motives. Don't be afraid to confront your true self.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
If you try to put one over on partners and colleagues they will see through your tactics and turn them against you. You must be open and honest.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You have only yourself to blame for allowing people to take advantage of you. Look seriously at what you do for other people — then start doing less.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

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~2015 IS 250 F SPORT Series 1/2015 RC 350 F SPORT Series 2/2015 NX 200t F SPORT Series 1 shown: \$44,399/\$64,496/\$54,470. **\$1,750/\$2,000 Delivery Credit is available on the purchase/lease of new Lexus 2015 IS 250 sedan/2015 RC 350 models only, and will be deducted from the negotiated purchase/lease price after taxes. Limited time offer is subject to change or cancellation without notice. Offer valid on retail purchase of a new unregistered 2015 Lexus RC 350 models only when purchased in cash, leased or financed from Lexus Financial Services through a Canadian Lexus Dealer and registered on or before July 31, 2015. Offer cannot be combined with Lexus Loyalty Programs or other forms of Lexus Conquest offers. Limit one \$3,000 Conquest/Loyalty Credit per customer. To qualify for the Conquest credit, retail customers must be a current owner/lessee of a non-Lexus vehicle for at least 3 months prior to redeeming this offer and provide proof of insurance with address matching vehicle purchase or lease agreement and registration address. To qualify for the Loyalty credit, retail customers must be a current owner/lessee of a Lexus vehicle for at least 3 months prior to redeeming this offer and provide proof of insurance with address matching vehicle purchase or lease agreement and registration address. Cash incentives include an amount for sales taxes and cash incentives will be deducted after sales taxes have been charged on the full amount of the negotiated price. Quantities of vehicles may be limited and dealer trade may be required. Dealer trade availability may also be limited and will vary by model. Dealer may sell/lease for less. All offers are subject to change without notice. See your Lexus Dealer for complete details. *Lease offers provided through Lexus Financial Services, on approved credit. **Representative lease example based on a 2015 IS 250 sfx 'A' on a 39 month term at an annual rate of 0.9% and MSRP of \$41,299. Monthly payment is \$399 with \$5,790 down payment or equivalent trade in, \$0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$21,365. 65,000 kilometre allowance; charge of \$0.20/km for excess kilometres. *Representative lease example based on a 2015 RC 350 AWD sfx 'B' on a 39 month term at an annual rate of 1.9% and MSRP of \$58,146. Monthly payment is \$469 with \$8,060 down payment or equivalent trade in, \$0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$26,355. Additional \$650 charge for Infrared paint colour shown. 65,000 kilometre allowance; charge of \$0.20/km for excess kilometres. *Representative lease example based on a 2015 NX 200t sfx 'B' on a 39 month term at an annual rate of 1.9% and MSRP of \$44,849. Monthly payment is \$459 with \$5,270 down payment or equivalent trade in, \$0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$23,173. 65,000 kilometre allowance; charge of \$0.20/km for excess kilometres. MSRPs include freight and PDI (\$2,045), Dealer fees, block heater (up to \$384), AC charge (\$100), Tire charge (\$20), AMVIC fee (\$6) and Filters (up to \$1.90). License, insurance, registration (if applicable), and taxes are extra. Lexus Dealers are free to set their own prices. Limited time offers only apply to retail customers at participating Lexus Dealers. Dealer order/trade may be required. Offers are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Offers expire at month's end unless extended or revised. See your Lexus Dealer for complete details.



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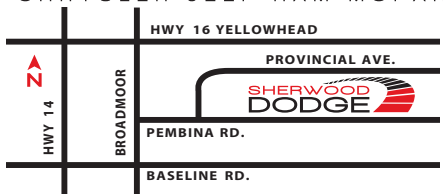
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 Alan Wack	2007 JEEP COMPASS 4X4 #5GC6209B \$9,775	2013 WRANGLER SAHARA UNLIMITED #4GH4548B \$29,700	2008 RAM 1500 REG CAB SPORT 4X4 #5R17937A \$18,700	2013 VW JETTA HYBRID HIGHLINE #5GH2517A \$24,700	2007 LEXUS IS250 AWD #51R6702A \$14,775	2010 SUBARU IMPREZA SPORT 2.5i #5R26688A \$19,860	 Matt Lakusta
 Mike Redmond	2006 RAM SRT10 QUAD CAB #5R17624B \$26,860	2008 CADILLAC SRX4 AWD #5JN6973B \$13,775	2014 DODGE JOURNEY SXT #4P24681A \$17,700	2009 FORD EDGE SEL #5R19356A \$12,775	2012 CHEV MALIBU #5R32000B \$10,775	2012 RAM 2500 POWER WAGON #5R22836A \$36,700	 Marty Dabrowski
 Kevin Knoske	2008 FORD RANGER FX4 S/CAB #5R10801A \$14,775	2013 RANGE ROVER 5.0HSE #5R16819A \$66,700	2009 RAM 3500 MEGACAB SLT 6.7L #4R31781B \$33,700	2012 MAZDA 3 SPORT GS SKY #41R9246A \$16,700	2007 TOYOTA COROLLA CE #5CK7185A \$9,775	2014 NISSAN VERSA NOTE #51R6969A \$13,700	 Brad McDonald
 Coby Dumond	2013 RAM 1500 SPORT CREW LIFTED #5GH6451A \$37,860	2012 FORD ESCAPE V6 AWD #5R17932A \$17,700	2012 KIA SORENTO SX AWD #5CK1341A \$20,775	2012 GMC SIERRA CREW 4X4 #5T49330A \$27,700	2014 FORD EXPLORER XLT #5R32570B \$34,700	2008 JEEP GR. CHEROKEE SRT8 #5R13188B \$27,700	 Darryl Campbell
 Mark Reimann	CHECK OUT OUR FRESH TRADE INS AT WWW.SHERWOODDODGE.CA						 Dale Buchner
 Roger Jean	2012 RAM 1500 SPORT CREW #5R11826A 2010 MAZDA 3 GS HATCHBACK #5CK6407A 2011 RAM 1500 SLT Q/C 4X4 #5R13985A 2012 JEEP GR. CHEROKEE 5.7L OVERLAND #4GH3014A 2007 DODGE NITRO SXT 4X4 #5R15880B	2011 CHRYSLER 300 TOURING #5R13812A 2012 JEEP PATRIOT NORTH 4X4 #5T47862A 2012 KIA SORENTO LX #5R12824A 2012 RAM 1500 OUTDOORMAN LIFTED CREW #5R33288A 2013 RAM 1500 SPORT CREW CAB #5R15880A	2012 MAZDA 3 GT SPORT H/BACK #5CK6470B 2013 KIA OPTIMA SX TURBO #5JN9135A 2012 DODGE GR. CARAVAN SE STOW N GO #5GC1207A 2015 VOLVO XC60 T6 AWD PREMIUM PLUS #5R14205A 2014 JEEP GR. CHEROKEE SRT8 #5R24712B	 Shane Hughes			
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Price shown plus GST. Vehicles may not be exactly as illustrated. See dealer for details.



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